Ontario Energy Board Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario



EB-2013-0072

NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND HEARING

APPLICATION BY HYDRO OTTAWA LIMITED FOR AN EXEMPTION FROM SECTION 6.5.4 OF THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM CODE

Hydro Ottawa Limited has applied to the Ontario Energy Board for an exemption from the requirements to eliminate long term load transfer ("LTLT") arrangements in relation to 44 customers of Hydro Ottawa.

LTLT is an arrangement between two distributors whereby one distributor (i.e. physical distributor) supplies electricity directly to the other distributor's (i.e. the geographic distributor) customers. The physical distributor charges the geographic distributor in accordance with an LTLT agreement. Section 6.5.4 of the Board's Distribution System Code (the "Code") requires geographic distributors to eliminate their LTLT arrangements by June 30, 2014 and sets some related reporting requirements. LTLTs can mainly be eliminated by either negotiating the transfer of the subject customers to the physical distributor or by the geographic distributor expanding its distribution system to connect the customers.

In this case, Hydro Ottawa is seeking an exemption from section 6.5.4 of the Code in order to maintain its LTLT arrangement with its neighbouring distributor, Hydro One Networks Inc. ("Hydro One") in relation to 44 LTLT customers. The affected customers are located within Hydro Ottawa's service area but are physically served by Hydro One distribution facilities. They are being charged Hydro Ottawa's approved distribution rates which are presently lower than Hydro One's distribution rates.

If the Board grants the exemption request, the current arrangement will continue. If the Board denies the exemption request, Hydro Ottawa has to eliminate the subject LTLT arrangements by June 30, 2014.

It is Hydro Ottawa's view that the current arrangement with Hydro One in relation to the 44 customers is in the public interest.

How to see Hydro Ottawa's Application

To see a copy of the application, go to the Consumer page of the Board's website and enter the case number **EB-2013-0072** in the "Find an Application" box. A copy can also be seen at the Board's office and at the applicant's office at the addresses indicated below, or on the applicant's website <u>http://www.hydroottawa.com</u>.

Written Hearing

The Board intends to proceed with this matter by way of a written hearing unless a party satisfies the Board that there is a good reason for not holding a written hearing. If you object to a written hearing, you must provide written reasons why you believe an oral hearing is necessary. Any submissions objecting to a written hearing must be received by the Board and copied to the applicant within **10 days** of the publication or service date of this notice.

How to Participate

Comment

If you wish to give your opinion on the proceeding to the Board Members hearing the application, you are invited to send a written letter of comment to the Board no later than **30 days** after the publication or service date of this notice. A complete copy of your letter of comment, including your name, contact information, and the content of the letter, will be provided to the applicant and the Hearing Panel.

Observe

If you do not wish to actively participate in the proceeding but you do wish to receive documents issued by the Board, you may request observer status. Your written request must be received by the Board no later than **10 days** from the publication or service date of this notice.

Personal Information in Letters of Comment and Observer Requests

All letters of comment or letters requesting observer status will be placed on the public record, which means that the letters can be seen at the Board's office and will be available on the Board's website. Before placing the letters on the public record, the Board will remove any personal (i.e. not business) contact information from the letters (i.e. the address, fax number, phone number, and e-mail address of the individual). However, the name of the individual and the content of the letter will become part of the public record. Please address your letter to the Board Secretary at the address below, and reference file number **EB-2013-0072** at the top of your letter.

Intervene

If you wish to actively participate in the proceeding (e.g., submit questions, file argument), you may request intervenor status from the Board no later than **10 days** after the publication or service date of this notice. Instructions for requesting intervenor status are available on the Board's website at <u>www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/participate</u>. Everything an intervenor files with the Board, including the intervenor's name and contact information, will be placed on the public record, which can be seen at the Board's office and will be available on the Board's website.

If you do not have internet access, please call 1-877-632-2727 to receive information about this proceeding and how to participate.

Since Hydro One Networks Inc. is the physical distributor for the LTLT arrangements that are the subject of this case, the Board hereby deems Hydro One Networks Inc. to be an intervenor in this proceeding and will require it to post this Notice in accordance with Board directions.

IMPORTANT

IF YOU DO NOT FILE A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO A WRITTEN HEARING OR DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE HEARING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS NOTICE, THE BOARD MAY PROCEED WITHOUT YOUR PARTICIPATION AND YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY FURTHER NOTICE IN THE PROCEEDING.

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Addresses

The Board

Ontario Energy Board P.O. Box 2319 27th Floor 2300 Yonge Street Toronto ON M4P 1E4 Attention: Board Secretary

Filings:

https://www.pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/ E-mail: boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (Toll free) Fax: 416-440-7656

The Applicant

Hydro Ottawa Limited 3025 Albion Road North P.O.Box 8700 Ottawa ON K1G 3S4 Attention: Mr. Patrick Hoey

E-mail: <u>regulatoryaffairs@hydroottawa.com</u> Tel: (613) 738-5499 ext. 7472 Fax: (613) 738-5485

DATED at Toronto, April 19, 2013

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary