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File: 6176

By Email and RESS Filing

June 14, 2013

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

Attention: Ms. Kirsten Walli, Board Secretary

Dear Ms. Walli:

**Re: Intervenor Status and Cost Eligibility Request on behalf of the Ojibways of
Pic River First Nation ("PRFN")
Proposal to Amend the Licence of the Ontario Power Authority
Board File No. EB-2013-0192**

The Ojibways of Pic River First Nation respectfully request intervenor status and costs in this proceeding.

Request for Intervenor Status

PRFN is located 300 kilometres east of Thunder Bay along the north shore of Lake Superior. Members of Pic River continue to make use of and occupy Pic River's traditional territory.

For over 25 years, PRFN has been actively involved in renewable energy generating projects and other economic development activities. PRFN is intimately involved in many traditional resource development projects including energy, mining and forestry.

PRFN took part in Ontario's Long Term Energy Plan initiative through the province's consultation process. PRFN was engaged with the province in the original IPSP initiative, making written submissions to the Ontario Energy Board with the Chiefs of Ontario Office. PRFN's experience with these planning exercises will assist PRFN to bring important and unique insights to this hearing.

In addition, PRFN's experience negotiating interconnection agreements with our planned new energy projects and participation in the East-West Tie hearings provides PRFN with an understanding of the difficulty of interconnection of new generating assets in Ontario and the need for transmission services. PRFN was a participant in the Ontario/Manitoba



Interconnection project, which sought to build a high voltage DC transmission line from Northern Manitoba across Ontario. Our knowledge of Ontario's need for new transmission is based on this very long history of participating in planning and proposal for new investment.

The hearing will result in amendments to the Ontario Power Authority's ("OPA") licence that will likely require OPA to conduct regional planning. Requirements for regional planning must include transparent processes to engage and consult First Nations. PRFN has an interest in this process. Consultation will need to include an understanding of the electricity needs of each First Nation and regional divisions must ensure adequate consideration of First Nations planning matters.

Request for Cost Award Eligibility

PRFN seeks an award of costs for its participation in this proceeding. As a First Nation with a deep level of understanding of electricity requirements and generation and transmission projects, PRFN brings a unique perspective. PRFN represents a distinct public interest in ensuring that Aboriginal interests and consultation requirements are included and adequately incorporated into regional planning initiatives.

PRFN seeks funding for the participation of its counsel. PRFN may retain qualified consultants to assist in representing PRFN's interests in this hearing.

PRFN requests that further communications with respect to this matter be sent to the following party:

Cherie Brant
Willms & Shier Environmental Lawyers LLP
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Yours truly,

Cherie Brant

cc: Mr. Byron Leclair