



EB-2013-0141

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 Hydro One
Networks Inc. for an order approving just and reasonable
rates and other charges for electricity distribution to be
effective January 1, 2014

PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 1

June 27, 2013

Hydro One Networks Inc. ("Hydro One") filed an application (the "Application") with the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") on April 26, 2013 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 Hydro One charges for electricity distribution, to be effective January 1, 2014. The Board assigned file number EB-2013-0141 to the application.

The Board issued a Notice of Application and Hearing dated May 24, 2013. The Board received 12 requests for intervenor status. The deadline for requesting intervention status was June 10, 2013. The following parties filed their request before the deadline: Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition ("VECC"), School Energy Coalition ("SEC"), Federation of Ontario Cottagers Association ("FOCA"), Energy Probe, Balsam Lake Coalition ("BLC"), Power Workers Union ("PWU"), Ontario Sustainable Energy Association ("OSEA"), and Mr. Howard I. Blatt.

The Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters ("CME"), Union Gas Limited ("Union"), the Ontario Federation of Agriculture ("OFA"), and the Consumers Council of Canada ("CCC") filed intervention requests after the June 10, 2013 deadline.

The Board notes that Hydro One did not object to any of the intervention requests. The Board will grant intervenor status to all parties that requested such status.

A list of intervenors is attached as Appendix A.

Of the parties requesting Intervenor status, 9 requested eligibility for an award of costs under the Board's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*: VECC, SEC, FOCA, Energy Probe, OSEA, CME, OFA, CCC and Mr. Blatt.

After considering these requests, the Board approves cost award eligibility for all the intervenors that requested eligibility. However, the Board reminds parties that this case was filed under the Board's guidelines for 3rd Generation Incentive Regulation Mechanism (IRM) which provides for a mechanistic and formulaic adjustment to distribution rates between cost of service applications. The Board generally does not award costs for interventions in IRM applications, and in this proceeding will only consider cost claims that relate to the proposed Smart Grid expenditures and plans.

As always, the Board expects that all cost eligible intervenors will cooperate to the maximum extent possible and avoid duplication wherever possible.

The Notice invited submissions on whether this case should proceed on an oral or written basis. On June 7, 2013, Hydro One submitted a letter requesting an oral hearing, indicating that it was appropriate to have the Smart Grid program examined in detail through an oral hearing. No other party made a submission on the form of hearing. The Board has determined that it will proceed by way of an oral hearing preceded by written interrogatories and then a transcribed technical conference.

The Board has decided to make provision at this time for written interrogatories. The Board reminds parties that interrogatories must reference the pre-filed evidence and, in accordance with *Chapter 1 of the Filing Requirements for Transmission and Distribution Applications* ("Filing Requirements"), parties must sort their interrogatories and responses by topics as outlined in the Exhibits as filed by the Applicant. The Board encourages parties to use a continuous numbering system to facilitate subsequent referencing of the interrogatories.

After interrogatory responses are filed, the Board will hold a technical conference. The purpose of the technical conference is to increase the efficiency of the oral proceeding

by providing parties with an opportunity to clarify the evidence, including an opportunity to address any outstanding questions with regard to the interrogatory responses.

The Board considers it necessary to make provision for the following matters related to this proceeding. Although the date for the oral hearing is not currently specified, it is expected that the oral hearing will take place in September, 2013. The Board will issue further procedural orders from time to time.

THE BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. Intervenor(s) shall request any information and material from Hydro One that is in addition to Hydro One's pre-filed evidence with the Board, and that is relevant to the hearing, by written interrogatories filed with the Board and served to all Parties on or before **July 11, 2013**. Interrogatories from Board staff shall be submitted on or before **July 4, 2013**.
2. Hydro One shall file with the Board complete written responses to the interrogatories and serve them to all parties on or before **August 1, 2013**.
3. A transcribed Technical Conference shall be convened on **August 9, 2013**, starting at 9:30 a.m. at the Board's offices, 2300 Yonge Street, 25th Floor, Toronto.

All filings to the Board must quote the file number, EB-2013-0141, be made through the Board's web portal at <https://www.pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/>, 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 <http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/OEB/Industry>. 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, Harold Thiessen at harold.thiessen@ontarioenergyboard.ca and Board Counsel, Michael Millar, at michael.millar@ontarioenergyboard.ca.

ADDRESS

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DATED at Toronto, June 27, 2013

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by:

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary

Appendix 'A'

To

Procedural Order No. 1

Hydro One Networks Inc.

EB-2013-0141

Applicant and List of Intervenor

June 27, 2013

**Hydro One Networks Inc.
EB-2013-0141**

APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS

June-27-13

APPLICANT

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APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS

June-27-13

INTERVENORS

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APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS

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**Hydro One Networks Inc.
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APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS

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APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS

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APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS

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