

117 Gorrie Street, Box 1480 Atikokan, Ontario POT 1C0

 Telephone
 (807)597-6600

 Fax
 (807)597-6988

 e-mail wilf.thorburn@athydro.com

July 15, 2013

Ms. Kirsten Walli Board Secretary Ontario Energy Board P.O. Box 2319, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor 2300 Yonge Street Toronto, Ontario M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

**Re: Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC)** Submission of VECC Interrogatories EB-2013-0019 Atikokan Hydro Inc.

With regards to Statement of costs from Econalysis Consulting Services, File 2013073, Atikokan Hydro feels that charges put forth by VECC are excessive. VECC withdrew one question after submitting the interrogatories.

- VECC asked the OEB to allow only 50% of the costs claimed during EB 2011-0293. Since VECC would have done the research to make that request during filing EB-2011-0293, one would hope that VECC was familiar with EB -2011-0293 and would not have to charge to review EB-2011-0293. It should not fall on Atikokan Hydro's shoulders to have VECC review its own prior request. This seems like double dipping.
- 2. The Board followed VECC's recommendation to allow 50% of the claimed costs and then to file an additional application [EB-2013-0019] once a regulatory audit had been completed. This makes questions regarding negative numbers in the final application not relevant because if any of the costs were not allowed after the regulatory audit, then negative numbers would have to appear in the incremental application.
- 3. The answers to most questions were simply direct quotes from either the application or EB-2011-0293.
- 4. VECC has asked in effect the same question regarding OM&A data by customer class in at least two other proceedings, with the same answer being provided by Atikokan Hydro. It does not seem appropriate to have to pay VECC to ask the same question and get the same answers several times.
- 5. In the spirit of the OEB direction "to promote economic efficiency and cost effectiveness in the generation, transmission, distribution, sale and demand management of electricity as well as to facilitate the maintenance of a financially viable electricity industry."

Atikokan Hydro respectfully asks the Board to assess Atikokan Hydro a maximum of 50% of the amount submitted by VECC.

Sincerely,

Welf Thorburn

Wilf Thorburn CEO/Secretary/Treasurer Atikokan Hydro Inc.