



**PUBLIC INTEREST ADVOCACY CENTRE**  
**LE CENTRE POUR LA DEFENSE DE L'INTERET PUBLIC**

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Michael Janigan  
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July 18, 2013

**VIA MAIL and E-MAIL**

Ms. Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary  
Ontario Energy Board  
P.O. Box 2319  
2300 Yonge St.  
Toronto, ON  
M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

**Re: Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC)**  
**VECC Response to Cost Claim Objection EB-2013-0019**  
**Atikokan Hydro Inc. Smart Meter Funding & Cost Recovery**

On July 15, 2013 Atikokan Hydro filed an objection to VECC's cost claim requesting that the Board approve a maximum of 50% of the cost claim amount submitted by VECC. Atikokan Hydro submitted that VECC should not charge to review its prior smart meter application EB-2011-0293, wherein 50% of its smart meter costs were awarded and an audit review was requested with respect to final amounts to be authorized for recovery in a future application. The results of an audit conducted by the Board's Regulatory Audit and Accounting Division were considered by the Board in the EB-2013-0019 proceeding.

VECC's cost claim is for five hours. This is the time required for the tasks set out in the cost claim which include reviewing the record in the first smart meter proceeding, reviewing the evidence in the current proceeding, filing interrogatories and preparing final submissions. VECC submits 5 hours is very reasonable and not excessive. Regardless of the fact certain evidentiary points were raised in another proceeding, it is appropriate and necessary that they be put on the record in this proceeding. This was resolved without involving counsel but with the assistance of a different consultant from the consultant who participated in EB-2011-0293. There is good value for ratepayers. VECC notes its intervention in Atikokan Hydro's smart meter application has resulted in net savings to ratepayers.

In considering the above, VECC submits its intervention is responsible, reasonable and relevant and as such its full cost claim should be eligible for recovery.

Please contact me if you have any questions or require further assistance.

Thank you.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Janigan', with a stylized, flowing script.

Michael Janigan  
Counsel for VECC

cc: Atikokan Hydro Inc.