



EB-2013-0139

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 Hawkesbury 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
September 24, 2013

Hydro Hawkesbury Inc. ("HHI") filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") on July 24, 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 HHI charges for electricity distribution, to be effective January 1, 2014. The Board has assigned the application file number EB-2013-0139.

The Board issued a Notice of Application and Hearing dated August 9, 2013. The Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition ("VECC") applied for intervenor status and cost eligibility. No objection was received.

The Board approves VECC as an intervenor. The Board has also determined that VECC is eligible to apply for an award of costs under the Board's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

On August 12, 2013 the Board issued a letter requiring HHI to file specific information related to the updated *Filing Requirements for Electricity Distribution Rate Applications*, dated July 17, 2013. On September 11, 2013, HHI filed the updated information.

The Board will make provision at this time for written interrogatories and further procedural steps related to this matter. The Board reminds parties that interrogatories must reference the pre-filed evidence and, in accordance with Chapter 1 of the Filing Requirements, parties are required to sort their interrogatories and responses by topics as outlined in the exhibits in the Filing Requirements. Parties are required to use a continuous numbering system to facilitate subsequent referencing of the interrogatories, as described in Chapter 1 of the Filing Requirements. Parties are to use the following acronyms for labelling interrogatories in this proceeding: "VECC" for the Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition and "Staff" for Board staff. The Filing Requirements indicate that parties are to carefully consider the relevance and materiality of information before requesting it through interrogatories.

After its review of the interrogatory responses, the Board will determine whether further discovery is required.

The Board will also make provision for a Settlement Conference in this matter. Board staff will be a party to the Settlement Conference and will put forward its view of the public interest, consistent with the Board's statutory mandate. Board staff will be a signatory to any settlement that is arrived at. As a party to the Settlement Conference, Board staff will be required to abide by the Board's Settlement Conference Guidelines. The Board notes in particular that Board staff, will not communicate with the Board panel hearing this matter with respect to any settlement proposal filed with the Board except in a hearing.

The Board considers it necessary to make provision for the following matters related to this proceeding.

THE BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. VECC shall request any information and material from HHI that is in addition to HHI's pre-filed evidence, and that is relevant to the hearing, by written interrogatories filed with the Board and served on HHI on or before **October 11, 2013**. Interrogatories from Board staff shall be submitted on or before **October 7, 2013**.

2. HHI shall file with the Board complete written responses to the interrogatories and serve them on VECC on or before **October 28, 2013**.
3. A Settlement Conference among HHI, VECC and Board staff will be convened on **November 13, 2013** starting at 9:30 a.m., at 2300 Yonge Street, 25th floor, Toronto, with the objective of reaching a settlement among the parties on the issues. If necessary, the Settlement Conference will continue on **November 14, 2013**.
4. Any Settlement Proposal arising from the Settlement Conference shall be filed with the Board on or before **December 2, 2013**. In addition to outlining the terms of any settlement, the Settlement Proposal should contain a list of any unsettled issues, identifying those issues that the parties believe must be dealt with by way of oral or written hearing.

All filings to the Board must quote the file number, EB-2013-0139, be made electronically through the Board's web portal at www.pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/, in searchable / unrestricted PDF format. Two paper copies must also be filed at the Board's address provided below. 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 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, Silvan Cheung at silvan.cheung@ontarioenergyboard.ca and Board Counsel, Ljuba Djurdjevic at ljuba.djurdjevic@ontarioenergyboard.ca.

ADDRESS

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Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (Toll free)
Fax: 416-440-7656

DATED at Toronto, September 24, 2013

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary

**Hydro Hawkesbury Inc.
EB-2013-0139**

APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS

September 24, 2013

APPLICANT

Rep. and Address for Service

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INTERVENORS

Rep. and Address for Service

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APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS

September 24, 2013

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Consumers Coalition**

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