

EB-2012-0397

IN THE MATTER OF the *Ontario Energy Board Act,* 1998, S.O, 1998, c. 15, Schedule B;

AND IN THE MATTER OF cost awards for interested parties in a consultation process regarding the encouragement of electricity distributor efficiency.

BEFORE: Marika Hare

Presiding Member

Cathy Spoel Member

DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS

Background

On February 11, 2013, the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") issued a letter (the "February Letter") giving notice of an initiative to assess how the Board's approach to the regulation of electricity distributors may affect their ability to realize operational or organizational efficiencies that benefit customers.

In the February Letter, the Board also indicated that cost awards would be available to eligible persons under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998 (the "Act") in relation to preparing for and attendance at a stakeholder meeting, to a maximum of 10 hours, and further stated that costs awarded would be recovered from all licensed electricity distributors based on their respective distribution revenues.

In accordance with the Board's March 14, 2013 <u>Decision on Cost Eligibility and Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards</u> (the "Decision and Notice") and its April 3, 2013 <u>Supplemental Decision on Cost Eligibility</u>, the following stakeholders (collectively, the "Eligible Participants") were found to be eligible for an award of costs in relation to this initiative:

- Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario ("AMPCO");
- Consumers Council of Canada ("CCC");
- Canadian Federation of Independent Business ("CFIB);
- Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters ("CME");
- Federation of Rental-housing Providers of Ontario ("FRPO");
- School Energy Coalition ("SEC");
- Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition ("VECC")

In the Decision and Notice, the Board noted that this initiative has not yet been completed, but that it was expedient to address cost awards in relation to participation in the stakeholder meeting.

AMPCO, CCC, CFIB, CME, SEC and VECC filed cost claims. FRPO, who did not participate in the stakeholder meeting, did not file a cost claim. No objections to the filed cost claims were received.

Board Findings

The Board has reviewed the cost claims filed by the Eligible Participants and finds that the cost claims are all within the approved overall limits set by the Board and are in accordance with the Board's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards* (the "Practice Direction").

The Board finds that all of the Eligible Participants are entitled to 100% of their reasonably incurred costs of participating in this initiative.

Process for Paying the Cost Awards

As indicated in the February Letter, the Board will use the process set out in section 12 of the Practice Direction to implement the payment of the cost awards.

Therefore, the Board will act as a clearing house for all payments of cost awards relating to this initiative. Invoices will be issued to licensed electricity distributors at the same time as are invoices for cost assessments made under section 26 of the Act. The practice of the Board is to issue to each distributor one invoice that covers all cost awards payable by that distributor for the relevant period. As a result, the invoice may cover cost awards payable in relation to a number of consultations and initiatives, including this one.

THE BOARD THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:

- 1. The individual licensed electricity distributors listed in Appendix A to this Decision and Order shall pay the costs awarded to each of the Eligible Participants as set out in Appendix A.
- The individual licensed electricity distributors listed in Appendix A to this Decision and Order shall pay the Board's costs of, and incidental to, this initiative.
- 3. Payment of the cost awards and of the Board's costs referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 shall be made to the Ontario Energy Board in accordance with the invoice issued to the individual licensed electricity distributor, and shall be due at the same time as cost assessments under section 26 of the Act are due.

ISSUED AT Toronto, November 18, 2013

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary

APPENDIX A

Board's Decision and Order on Cost Awards EB-2012-0397

Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator	AMPCO	СМЕ	CFIB	ccc	SEC	VECC	Total
					•		
ALGOMA POWER INC.	\$ 14.53	\$ 6.33	\$ 13.77	\$ 16.07	\$ 17.47	\$ 16.12	\$ 84.28
ATIKOKAN HYDRO INC.	\$ 0.81	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.77	\$ 0.90	\$ 0.98	\$ 0.90	\$ 4.72
ATTAWAPISKAT POWER CORP.	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.64	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.82	\$ 0.75	\$ 3.94
Bluewater Power Distribution Corporation	\$ 14.12	\$ 6.15	\$ 13.38	\$ 15.61	\$ 16.97	\$ 15.66	\$ 81.89
BRANT COUNTY POWER INC.	\$ 4.41	\$ 1.92	\$ 4.18	\$ 4.87	\$ 5.30	\$ 4.89	\$ 25.57
BRANTFORD POWER INC.	\$ 11.49	\$ 5.00	\$ 10.89	\$ 12.71	\$ 13.82	\$ 12.75	\$ 66.67
							\$
BURLINGTON HYDRO INC.	\$ 22.44	\$ 9.77	\$ 21.27	\$ 24.82	\$ 26.98	\$ 24.90	130.20
							\$
CAMBRIDGE AND NORTH DUMFRIES HYDRO INC.	\$ 17.93	\$ 7.81	\$ 17.00	\$ 19.83	\$ 21.56	\$ 19.90	104.02
CANADIAN NIAGARA POWER INC.	\$ 12.16	\$ 5.30	\$ 11.53	\$ 13.45	\$ 14.62	\$ 13.49	\$ 70.55
CENTRE WELLINGTON HYDRO LTD.	\$ 2.18	\$ 0.95	\$ 2.07	\$ 2.41	\$ 2.62	\$ 2.42	\$ 12.65
Chapleau Public Utilities Corporation	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.20	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.56	\$ 0.51	\$ 2.69
Entegrus Powerlines Inc.	\$ 13.62	\$ 5.93	\$ 12.91	\$ 15.06	\$ 16.37	\$ 15.11	\$ 79.00
COLLUS POWERSTREAM CORP.	\$ 4.33	\$ 1.89	\$ 4.10	\$ 4.79	\$ 5.21	\$ 4.81	\$ 25.12
COOPERATIVE HYDRO EMBRUN INC.	\$ 0.56	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.53	\$ 0.62	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.62	\$ 3.26

CORNWALL STREET RAILWAY LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY LTD.	\$ 8.95	\$ 3.90	\$ 8.48	\$.89	\$ 10.76	\$ 9.93	\$ 51.90
E.L.K. ENERGY INC.	\$ 2.62	\$ 1.14	\$ 2.48	\$ 2.90	\$ 3.15	\$ 2.91	\$ 15.20
E.L.K. ENERGY INC.	Ş 2.02	Ş 1.14	J 2.40	Ş 2.90	\$ 3.13	λ 2.31	\$ 13.20
ENERSOURCE HYDRO MISSISSAUGA INC.	\$ 85.53	\$ 37.25	\$ 81.07	\$ 94.59	\$ 102.84	\$ 94.91	496.19
							\$
ENWIN UTILITIES LTD.	\$ 36.00	\$ 15.68	\$ 34.12	\$ 39.81	\$ 43.28	\$ 39.95	208.85
Erie Thames Powerlines Corporation	\$ 5.93	\$ 2.58	\$ 5.63	\$ 6.56	\$ 7.14	\$ 6.59	\$ 34.43
Espanola Regional Hydro Distribution Corporation	\$ 1.00	\$ 0.43	\$ 0.95	\$ 1.10	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.11	\$ 5.78
Essex Powerlines Corporation	\$ 8.46	\$ 3.68	\$ 8.02	\$ 9.35	\$ 10.17	\$ 9.39	\$ 49.07
FESTIVAL HYDRO INC.	\$ 7.33	\$ 3.19	\$ 6.95	\$ 8.10	\$ 8.81	\$ 8.13	\$ 42.51
FORT ALBANY POWER CORP.	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.48	\$ 0.56	\$ 0.61	\$ 0.57	\$ 2.96
Fort Frances Power Corporation	\$ 1.10	\$ 0.48	\$ 1.04	\$ 1.22	\$ 1.32	\$ 1.22	\$ 6.39
GREATER SUDBURY HYDRO INC.	\$ 17.09	\$ 7.44	\$ 16.20	\$ 18.90	\$ 20.55	\$ 18.97	\$ 99.15
Grimsby Power Incorporated	\$ 2.60	\$ 1.13	\$ 2.47	\$ 2.88	\$ 3.13	\$ 2.89	\$ 15.10
							\$
GUELPH HYDRO ELECTRIC SYSTEMS INC.	\$ 18.66	\$ 8.13	\$ 17.68	\$ 20.63	\$ 22.43	\$ 20.70	108.23
HALDIMAND COUNTY HYDRO INC.	\$ 9.69	\$ 4.22	\$ 9.19	\$ 10.72	\$ 11.65	\$ 10.75	\$ 56.22
HALTON HILLS HYDRO INC.	\$ 7.16	\$ 3.12	\$ 6.79	\$ 7.92	\$ 8.61	\$ 7.95	\$ 41.55
Horizon Utilities Corporation							\$
	\$ 71.29	\$ 31.05	\$ 67.58	\$ 78.84	\$ 85.72	\$ 79.11	413.59
HYDRO HAWKESBURY INC.	\$ 1.05	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.99	\$ 1.16	\$ 1.26	\$ 1.16	\$ 6.08
Hearst Power Distribution Company Limited	\$ 0.81	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.76	\$ 0.89	\$ 0.97	\$ 0.89	\$ 4.68
HYDRO 2000 INC.	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.11	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.28	\$ 1.44
							\$
HYDRO ONE BRAMPTON NETWORKS INC.	\$ 43.68	\$ 19.02	\$ 41.40	\$ 48.30	\$ 52.52	\$ 48.47	253.40
				\$	\$	\$	\$
HYDRO ONE NETWORKS INC.	\$ 906.90	\$ 394.98	\$ 859.63	1,002.90	1,090.39	1,006.36	5,261.15

Hydro One Remote Communities Inc.	\$ 15.42	\$ 6.72	\$ 14.62	\$ 17.05	\$ 18.54	\$ 17.11	\$ 89.46
Hydro Ottawa Limited							\$
	\$ 106.67	\$ 46.46	\$ 101.11	\$ 117.96	\$ 128.25	\$ 118.37	618.83
Innisfil Hydro Distribution Systems Limited	\$ 5.83	\$ 2.54	\$ 5.53	\$ 6.45	\$ 7.01	\$ 6.47	\$ 33.85
KASHECHEWAN POWER CORP.	\$ 0.61	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.74	\$ 0.68	\$ 3.56
KENORA HYDRO ELECTRIC CORPORATION LTD.	\$ 1.98	\$ 0.86	\$ 1.88	\$ 2.19	\$ 2.38	\$ 2.20	\$ 11.50
Kingston Hydro Corporation	\$ 7.78	\$ 3.39	\$ 7.37	\$ 8.60	\$ 9.35	\$ 8.63	\$ 45.13
							\$
KITCHENER-WILMOT HYDRO INC.	\$ 28.51	\$ 12.42	\$ 27.02	\$ 31.53	\$ 34.28	\$ 31.63	165.38
LAKEFRONT UTILITIES INC.	\$ 3.18	\$ 1.39	\$ 3.01	\$ 3.52	\$ 3.82	\$ 3.53	\$ 18.45
LAKELAND POWER DISTRIBUTION LTD.	\$ 3.47	\$ 1.51	\$ 3.29	\$ 3.83	\$ 4.17	\$ 3.85	\$ 20.12
							\$
LONDON HYDRO INC.	\$ 44.82	\$ 19.52	\$ 42.48	\$ 49.56	\$ 53.89	\$ 49.73	260.01
Midland Power Utility Corporation	\$ 2.65	\$ 1.16	\$ 2.52	\$ 2.94	\$ 3.19	\$ 2.95	\$ 15.40
MILTON HYDRO DISTRIBUTION INC.	\$ 9.93	\$ 4.32	\$ 9.41	\$ 10.98	\$ 11.94	\$ 11.02	\$ 57.59
NEWMARKET - TAY POWER DISTRIBUTION LTD.	\$ 12.40	\$ 5.40	\$ 11.76	\$ 13.72	\$ 14.91	\$ 13.76	\$ 71.95
							\$
NIAGARA PENINSULA ENERGY INC.	\$ 20.63	\$ 8.99	\$ 19.56	\$ 22.82	\$ 24.81	\$ 22.90	119.71
NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE HYDRO INC.	\$ 3.68	\$ 1.60	\$ 3.49	\$ 4.07	\$ 4.43	\$ 4.09	\$ 21.38
NORFOLK POWER DISTRIBUTION INC.	\$ 8.26	\$ 3.60	\$ 7.83	\$ 9.14	\$ 9.93	\$ 9.17	\$ 47.93
North Bay Hydro Distribution Limited	\$ 8.69	\$ 3.79	\$ 8.24	\$ 9.61	\$ 10.45	\$ 9.65	\$ 50.43
NORTHERN ONTARIO WIRES INC.	\$ 1.98	\$ 0.86	\$ 1.87	\$ 2.19	\$ 2.38	\$ 2.19	\$ 11.47
							\$
OAKVILLE HYDRO ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION INC.	\$ 24.12	\$ 10.51	\$ 22.87	\$ 26.68	\$ 29.00	\$ 26.77	139.95
Orangeville Hydro Limited	\$ 3.73	\$ 1.63	\$ 3.54	\$ 4.13	\$ 4.49	\$ 4.14	\$ 21.65
Orillia Power Distribution Corporation	\$ 5.53	\$ 2.41	\$ 5.25	\$ 6.12	\$ 6.65	\$ 6.14	\$ 32.10
OSHAWA PUC NETWORKS INC.	\$ 16.35	\$ 7.12	\$ 15.50	\$ 18.09	\$ 19.66	\$ 18.15	\$ 94.87
Ottawa River Power Corporation	\$ 3.01	\$ 1.31	\$ 2.85	\$ 3.32	\$ 3.61	\$ 3.34	\$ 17.44

Parry Sound Power Corporation	\$ 1.54	\$ 0.67	\$ 1.46	\$ 1.71	\$ 1.86	\$ 1.71	\$ 8.96
Peterborough Distribution Incorporated	\$ 10.95	\$ 4.77	\$ 10.38	\$ 12.11	\$ 13.16	\$ 12.15	\$ 63.52
							\$
POWERSTREAM INC.	\$ 121.41	\$ 52.88	\$ 115.08	\$ 134.26	\$ 145.98	\$ 134.73	704.34
PUC DISTRIBUTION INC.	\$ 11.14	\$ 4.85	\$10.56	\$ 12.32	\$ 13.39	\$ 12.36	\$ 64.62
RENFREW HYDRO INC.	\$ 1.38	\$ 0.60	\$ 1.31	\$ 1.53	\$ 1.66	\$ 1.53	\$ 8.01
RIDEAU ST. LAWRENCE DISTRIBUTION INC.	\$ 1.55	\$ 0.67	\$ 1.47	\$ 1.71	\$ 1.86	\$ 1.72	\$ 8.98
ST. THOMAS ENERGY INC.	\$ 4.86	\$ 2.12	\$ 4.60	\$ 5.37	\$ 5.84	\$ 5.39	\$ 28.18
SIOUX LOOKOUT HYDRO INC.	\$ 1.34	\$ 0.58	\$ 1.27	\$ 1.48	\$ 1.61	\$ 1.48	\$ 7.76
THUNDER BAY HYDRO ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION INC.	\$ 13.60	\$ 5.92	\$ 12.89	\$ 15.04	\$ 16.35	\$ 15.09	\$ 78.90
TILLSONBURG HYDRO INC.	\$ 2.24	\$ 0.97	\$ 2.12	\$ 2.47	\$ 2.69	\$ 2.48	\$ 12.97
Toronto Hydro-Electric System Limited							\$
	\$ 398.67	\$ 173.63	\$ 377.89	\$ 440.87	\$ 479.33	\$ 442.39	2,312.77
							\$
VERIDIAN CONNECTIONS INC.	\$ 35.63	\$ 15.52	\$ 33.77	\$ 39.40	\$ 42.84	\$ 39.54	206.69
WASAGA DISTRIBUTION INC.	\$ 2.91	\$ 1.27	\$ 2.76	\$ 3.22	\$ 3.50	\$ 3.23	\$ 16.87
							\$
WATERLOO NORTH HYDRO INC.	\$ 21.04	\$ 9.16	\$19.94	\$23.26	\$25.29	\$ 23.34	122.03
WELLAND HYDRO-ELECTRIC SYSTEM CORP.	\$ 6.38	\$ 2.78	\$ 6.05	\$ 7.06	\$ 7.67	\$ 7.08	\$ 37.03
WELLINGTON NORTH POWER INC.	\$ 1.40	\$ 0.61	\$ 1.32	\$ 1.54	\$ 1.68	\$ 1.55	\$ 8.10
WEST COAST HURON ENERGY INC.	\$ 1.58	\$ 0.69	\$ 1.50	\$ 1.75	\$ 1.90	\$ 1.75	\$ 9.17
WESTARIO POWER INC.	\$ 6.53	\$ 2.84	\$ 6.19	\$ 7.22	\$ 7.85	\$ 7.24	\$ 37.87
Whitby Hydro Electric Corporation	\$ 14.96	\$ 6.51	\$ 14.18	\$ 16.54	\$ 17.98	\$ 16.60	\$ 86.76
WOODSTOCK HYDRO SERVICES INC.	\$ 5.74	\$ 2.50	\$ 5.45	\$ 6.35	\$ 6.91	\$ 6.37	\$ 33.33

\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
2,360.43	1,028.02	2,237.40	2,610.30	2,838.00	2,619.29	13,693.44