



EB-2008-0150

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

AND IN THE MATTER OF cost awards in relation to a consultation process to examine issues relating to low income consumers.

BEFORE Marika Hare
Presiding Member

Cathy Spoel
Member

DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS

December 16, 2013

Background

On July 30, 2010, the Board issued a letter (the "Letter") regarding eligibility for cost awards in relation to participation in meetings of the Financial Assistance Working Group. The Letter indicated that the Board determined that the participants identified in the Board's June 17, 2009 Decision on Cost Eligibility (the "June Decision") were considered eligible for costs in relation to participation in meetings of the Financial Assistance Working Group and were not required to submit a further request for cost eligibility.

Members of the Financial Assistance Working Group that were identified in the June Decision are: Consumers Council of Canada ("CCC"), Housing Help Association of Ontario, Low Income Energy Network ("LIEN"), The Salvation Army Centre of Hope (the "Salvation Army") and the Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition ("VECC").

On July 10, 2013, Board staff held a reconvening meeting of the Financial Assistance Working Group. In that meeting, Board staff presented the preliminary results of the monthly and annual LEAP data for 2012 and discussed issues regarding the implementation of the Low Income Electricity Customer Service Rules and LEAP Emergency Financial Assistance program.

On October 9, 2013, the Board issued a Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards in relation to this consultation process (the "Notice"). The Notice indicated that cost awards for participation in the July 10, 2013 meeting would be available for a maximum of actual meeting time, which was 6.5 hours, plus up to an additional 8 hours for preparation and reporting.

LIEN, CCC and VECC submitted cost claims by October 23, 2013. Although found to be eligible, no cost claims were received from the Housing Help Association of Ontario, or the Salvation Army. No objections to the filed cost claims were received.

Board Findings on the Cost Claims of the Eligible Participants

The Board has reviewed the cost claims and finds that the cost claims filed by CCC and VECC are within the approved overall limits set by the Board. The Board therefore finds that CCC and VECC are entitled to 100% of their reasonably incurred costs of participating in this consultation process.

The Board has adjusted LIEN's cost claim within the approved limits set out in Board's Practice Direction on Cost Awards. The approved amounts are set out in Appendix A to this Decision and Order.

The amount payable by each individual licensed electricity and gas distributor in relation to costs awarded to each eligible participant is listed in Appendix A.

Process for Paying the Cost Awards

The Board has determined that costs should be apportioned between gas distributors and licensed electricity distributors based on the Board's Cost Assessment Model. This results in an allocation of 23.5% of costs to gas distributors and 76.5% of costs to licensed electricity distributors. These costs will then be allocated to each distributor based on their respective distribution revenues.

As stated in the Notice, 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 consultation process. Invoices will be issued to distributors at the same time as invoices for cost assessments made under Section 26 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (the "Act"). The practice of the Board is to issue to each distributor one invoice that covers all cost awards payable by the distributor for the relevant period. As a result, the invoice may cover cost awards payable in relation to a number of consultations, including this one.

THE BOARD THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:

1. The amounts to be paid by each individual distributor in relation to the costs awarded to each eligible participant are as set out in Appendix A to this Decision and Order.
2. The individual 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.
3. The individual distributors listed in Appendix A to this Decision and Order shall pay the Board's costs of, and incidental to, this consultation.
4. Payment of cost awards and of the Board's costs referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3 shall be made to the Ontario Energy Board in accordance with the invoice issued to the individual distributor, and shall be due at the same time as cost assessments under Section 26 of the Act are due.

DATED at Toronto, December 16, 2013

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary

Appendix A
to the Board's Decision and Order on Cost Awards

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Consultation on Energy Issues Relating to Low Income Consumers

	Gas Distributor	CCC	LIEN	VECC	Total
1	ENBRIDGE GAS DISTRIBUTION	\$ 202.69	\$ 17.73	\$ 248.59	\$ 469.02
2	UNION GAS	\$ 190.62	\$ 16.68	\$ 233.79	\$ 441.08
3	NATURAL RESOURCE GAS	\$ 1.03	\$ 0.09	\$ 1.26	\$ 2.37
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		\$ 394.34	\$ 34.50	\$ 483.63	\$ 912.47

	Electricity Distributor	CCC	LIEN	VECC	Total
4	ALGOMA POWER INC.	\$ 7.90	\$ 0.69	\$ 9.69	\$ 18.28
5	ATIKOKAN HYDRO INC.	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.54	\$ 1.02
6	ATTAWAPISKAT POWER CORP.	\$ 0.37	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.85
7	BLUEWATER POWER DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION	\$ 7.68	\$ 0.67	\$ 9.42	\$ 17.76
8	BRANT COUNTY POWER INC.	\$ 2.40	\$ 0.21	\$ 2.94	\$ 5.55
9	BRANTFORD POWER INC.	\$ 6.25	\$ 0.55	\$ 7.66	\$ 14.46
10	BURLINGTON HYDRO INC.	\$ 12.21	\$ 1.07	\$ 14.97	\$ 28.24
11	CAMBRIDGE AND NORTH DUMFRIES HYDRO INC.	\$ 9.75	\$ 0.85	\$ 11.96	\$ 22.56
12	CANADIAN NIAGARA POWER INC.	\$ 6.61	\$ 0.58	\$ 8.11	\$ 15.30
13	CENTRE WELLINGTON HYDRO LTD.	\$ 1.19	\$ 0.10	\$ 1.45	\$ 2.75
14	CHAPLEAU PUBLIC UTILITIES CORPORATION	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.31	\$ 0.58
15	COLLUS POWERSTREAM CORP.	\$ 2.36	\$ 0.21	\$ 2.89	\$ 5.45

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16	COOPERATIVE HYDRO EMBRUN INC.	\$ 0.31	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.71
17	CORNWALL STREET RAILWAY LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY LTD.	\$ 4.87	\$ 0.43	\$ 5.97	\$ 11.26
18	E.L.K. ENERGY INC.	\$ 1.43	\$ 0.12	\$ 1.75	\$ 3.30
19	ENERSOURCE HYDRO MISSISSAUGA INC.	\$ 46.52	\$ 4.07	\$ 57.05	\$ 107.63
20	ENTEGRUS POWERLINES INC.	\$ 7.41	\$ 0.65	\$ 9.08	\$ 17.14
21	ENWIN UTILITIES LTD.	\$ 19.58	\$ 1.71	\$ 24.01	\$ 45.30
22	ERIE THAMES POWERLINES CORPORATION	\$ 3.23	\$ 0.28	\$ 3.96	\$ 7.47
23	ESPANOLA REGIONAL HYDRO DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION	\$ 0.54	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.67	\$ 1.25
24	ESSEX POWERLINES CORPORATION	\$ 4.60	\$ 0.40	\$ 5.64	\$ 10.64
25	FESTIVAL HYDRO INC.	\$ 3.99	\$ 0.35	\$ 4.89	\$ 9.22
26	FORT ALBANY POWER CORP.	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.64
27	FORT FRANCES POWER CORPORATION	\$ 0.60	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.73	\$ 1.39
28	GREATER SUDBURY HYDRO INC.	\$ 9.30	\$ 0.81	\$ 11.40	\$ 21.51
29	GRIMSBY POWER INCORPORATED	\$ 1.42	\$ 0.12	\$ 1.74	\$ 3.28
30	GUELPH HYDRO ELECTRIC SYSTEMS INC.	\$ 10.15	\$ 0.89	\$ 12.44	\$ 23.48
31	HALDIMAND COUNTY HYDRO INC.	\$ 5.27	\$ 0.46	\$ 6.46	\$ 12.19
32	HALTON HILLS HYDRO INC.	\$ 3.90	\$ 0.34	\$ 4.78	\$ 9.01
33	HORIZON UTILITIES CORPORATION	\$ 38.77	\$ 3.39	\$ 47.55	\$ 89.72
34	HYDRO HAWKESBURY INC.	\$ 0.57	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.70	\$ 1.32
35	HEARST POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.54	\$ 1.01
36	HYDRO 2000 INC.	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.31
37	HYDRO ONE BRAMPTON NETWORKS INC.	\$ 23.76	\$ 2.08	\$ 29.13	\$ 54.97
38	HYDRO ONE NETWORKS INC.	\$ 493.21	\$ 43.15	\$ 604.89	\$ 1,141.25
39	HYDO ONE REMOTE COMMUNITIES INC.	\$ 8.39	\$ 0.73	\$ 10.29	\$ 19.41
40	HYDRO OTTAWA LIMITED	\$ 58.01	\$ 5.08	\$ 71.15	\$ 134.24
41	INNISFIL HYDRO DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS LIMITED	\$ 3.17	\$ 0.28	\$ 3.89	\$ 7.34
42	KASHECHEWAN POWER CORP.	\$ 0.33	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.77
43	KENORA HYDRO ELECTRIC CORPORATION LTD.	\$ 1.08	\$ 0.09	\$ 1.32	\$ 2.49
44	KINGSTON HYDRO CORPORATION	\$ 4.23	\$ 0.37	\$ 5.19	\$ 9.79
45	KITCHENER-WILMOT HYDRO INC.	\$ 15.50	\$ 1.36	\$ 19.01	\$ 35.87
46	LAKEFRONT UTILITIES INC.	\$ 1.73	\$ 0.15	\$ 2.12	\$ 4.00
47	LAKELAND POWER DISTRIBUTION LTD.	\$ 1.89	\$ 0.16	\$ 2.31	\$ 4.36
48	LONDON HYDRO INC.	\$ 24.37	\$ 2.13	\$ 29.89	\$ 56.40
49	MIDLAND POWER UTILITY CORPORATION	\$ 1.44	\$ 0.13	\$ 1.77	\$ 3.34
50	MILTON HYDRO DISTRIBUTION INC.	\$ 5.40	\$ 0.47	\$ 6.62	\$ 12.49
51	NEWMARKET - TAY POWER DISTRIBUTION LTD.	\$ 6.75	\$ 0.59	\$ 8.27	\$ 15.61

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52	NIAGARA PENINSULA ENERGY INC.	\$ 11.22	\$ 0.98	\$ 13.76	\$ 25.97
53	NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE HYDRO INC.	\$ 2.00	\$ 0.18	\$ 2.46	\$ 4.64
54	NORFOLK POWER DISTRIBUTION INC.	\$ 4.49	\$ 0.39	\$ 5.51	\$ 10.40
55	NORTH BAY HYDRO DISTRIBUTION LIMITED	\$ 4.73	\$ 0.41	\$ 5.80	\$ 10.94
56	NORTHERN ONTARIO WIRES INC.	\$ 1.08	\$ 0.09	\$ 1.32	\$ 2.49
57	OAKVILLE HYDRO ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION INC.	\$ 13.12	\$ 1.15	\$ 16.09	\$ 30.36
58	ORANGEVILLE HYDRO LIMITED	\$ 2.03	\$ 0.18	\$ 2.49	\$ 4.70
59	ORILLIA POWER DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION	\$ 3.01	\$ 0.26	\$ 3.69	\$ 6.96
60	OSHAWA PUC NETWORKS INC.	\$ 8.89	\$ 0.78	\$ 10.91	\$ 20.58
61	OTTAWA RIVER POWER CORPORATION	\$ 1.64	\$ 0.14	\$ 2.01	\$ 3.78
62	PARRY SOUND POWER CORPORATION	\$ 0.84	\$ 0.07	\$ 1.03	\$ 1.94
63	PETERBOROUGH DISTRIBUTION INCORPORATED	\$ 5.95	\$ 0.52	\$ 7.30	\$ 13.78
64	POWERSTREAM INC.	\$ 66.03	\$ 5.78	\$ 80.98	\$ 152.78
65	PUC DISTRIBUTION INC.	\$ 6.06	\$ 0.53	\$ 7.43	\$ 14.02
66	RENFREW HYDRO INC.	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.07	\$ 0.92	\$ 1.74
67	RIDEAU ST. LAWRENCE DISTRIBUTION INC.	\$ 0.84	\$ 0.07	\$ 1.03	\$ 1.95
68	ST. THOMAS ENERGY INC.	\$ 2.64	\$ 0.23	\$ 3.24	\$ 6.11
69	SIOUX LOOKOUT HYDRO INC.	\$ 0.73	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.89	\$ 1.68
70	THUNDER BAY HYDRO ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION INC.	\$ 7.40	\$ 0.65	\$ 9.07	\$ 17.12
71	TILLSONBURG HYDRO INC.	\$ 1.22	\$ 0.11	\$ 1.49	\$ 2.81
72	TORONTO HYDRO-ELECTRIC SYSTEM LIMITED	\$ 216.81	\$ 18.97	\$ 265.91	\$ 501.69
73	VERIDIAN CONNECTIONS INC.	\$ 19.38	\$ 1.70	\$ 23.76	\$ 44.84
74	WASAGA DISTRIBUTION INC.	\$ 1.58	\$ 0.14	\$ 1.94	\$ 3.66
75	WATERLOO NORTH HYDRO INC.	\$ 11.44	\$ 1.00	\$ 14.03	\$ 26.47
76	WELLAND HYDRO-ELECTRIC SYSTEM CORP.	\$ 3.47	\$ 0.30	\$ 4.26	\$ 8.03
77	WELLINGTON NORTH POWER INC.	\$ 0.76	\$ 0.07	\$ 0.93	\$ 1.76
78	WEST COAST HURON ENERGY INC.	\$ 0.86	\$ 0.08	\$ 1.05	\$ 1.99
79	WESTARIO POWER INC.	\$ 3.55	\$ 0.31	\$ 4.35	\$ 8.21

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80	WHITBY HYDRO ELECTRIC CORPORATION	\$ 8.13	\$ 0.71	\$ 9.98	\$ 18.82
81	WOODSTOCK HYDRO SERVICES INC.	\$ 3.12	\$ 0.27	\$ 3.83	\$ 7.23

\$ 1,283.71 \$ 112.30 \$ 1,574.38 \$ 2,970.39

TOTAL	\$ 1,678.05	\$ 146.80	\$ 2,058.01	\$ 3,882.86
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