

**2014 ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION RATES
Haldimand County Hydro Inc.**

EB-2013-0134

BOARD STAFF SUBMISSION

April 9, 2014

INTRODUCTION

On April 4, 2014, Haldimand County Hydro Inc. (“HCHI”) filed a Settlement Proposal (the “Proposal”) with respect to its application for an order approving just and reasonable rates and other charges for electricity distribution to be effective May 1, 2014.

The parties to the settlement proposal are HCHI and the two Board-approved intervenors in the proceeding: the Vulnerable Energy Consumers’ Coalition (“VECC”) and Energy Probe Research Foundation (“Energy Probe”). Board Staff also attended the Settlement Conference and adopted the role as set out in the Board’s Settlement Conference Guidelines.

The settlement proposal represents a complete settlement of all issues.

Submission

Board staff has reviewed the Proposal in the context of the objectives of the Renewed Regulatory Framework for Electricity, other applicable Board policies, relevant Board decisions, and the Board’s statutory obligations. While the parties considered the issues and HCHI’s planning in the limited context of the test year, Board staff is of the view that the Proposal reflects a reasonable evaluation of the distributor’s planned outcomes in this proceeding, and appropriate consideration of relevant issues. This is the first year of implementation for the Renewed Regulatory Framework for Electricity, and Board staff took this into consideration in assessing the settlement proposal.

Board staff has reviewed the proposed Tariff of Rates and Charges attached to the Proposal as Appendix J. Board staff submits that the Board’s approval of the proposal as filed would adequately reflect the public interest and would result in just and reasonable rates for customers.

- All of which is respectfully submitted -