

**Ontario Energy
Board**

**Commission de l'énergie
de l'Ontario**



EB-2013-0359

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 Niagara Peninsula Energy Inc. for an order approving or fixing just and reasonable distribution rates related to Smart Meter deployment, to be effective February 1, 2014 and May 1, 2014.

BEFORE: Marika Hare
Presiding Member

Ken Quesnelle
Member

DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS

April 16, 2014

Background

Niagara Peninsula Energy Inc. (“Niagara Peninsula Energy”), a licensed electricity distributor, filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (the “Board”), received on October 10, 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 Niagara Peninsula Energy charges for electricity distribution in relation to smart meter deployment, to be effective February 1, 2014 and May 1, 2014.

On November 27, 2013, the Board issued Procedural Order No. 1, granting the Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (“VECC”) intervenor status and cost award eligibility.

On February 27, 2014, the Board issued its Decision and Rate Order, in which it set out the process for VECC to file its cost claims, for Niagara Peninsula Energy to object to the claims and for VECC to respond to any objections raised by Niagara Peninsula Energy.

The Board received VECC’s cost claim. No objections were received from Niagara Peninsula Energy.

Board Findings

The Board has reviewed VECC’s cost claim and finds that VECC is eligible for 100% of the incurred costs of participating in this proceeding. The Board finds that VECC’s claim is reasonable and shall be reimbursed by Niagara Peninsula Energy.

THE BOARD THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:

1. Pursuant to section 30 of the Ontario *Energy Board Act, 1998*, Niagara Peninsula Energy shall immediately pay the Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition \$2,211.16.
2. Pursuant to section 30 of the Ontario *Energy Board Act, 1998*, Niagara Peninsula Energy shall pay the Board’s costs of and incidental to, this proceeding immediately upon receipt of the Board’s invoice.

DATED at Toronto, April 16, 2014.

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary