

May 20, 2014

Kirsten Walli

Board Secretary

Ontario Energy Board

2300 Yonge St., Suite 2700

P.O. Box 2319

Toronto, Ont.

M4P1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

**Re: Hydro One Networks Inc. – 2015-2019 Distribution Rate Application-Balsam Lake Coalition**

On February 11, 2014 the Balsam Lake Coalition applied to the Ontario Energy Board (“Board”) for intervenor status in the above referenced proceedings. The Balsam Lake Coalition (“BLC”) is comprised of several seasonal customers of Hydro One Networks Inc. (“HON”). Our interest in this proceeding will be focused on HON’s seasonal classification and rates. In requesting intervenor status the BLC also applied for recovery of it’s costs reasonably incurred, including travel, parking and legal counsel. We indicated that our legal counsel costs may be mitigated by using another intervenor’s counsel.

On March 14, 2014, the Board granted intervenor status to 18 parties including BLC. The Board also indicated that BLC would be eligible for an award of costs under the Board’s *Practice Direction on Costs Awards*.

The BLC has not retained legal counsel to date. Prior to doing so, we are seeking to ensure that we would be subject to recover any reasonably incurred legal costs. The BLC may retain its own legal counsel or may work with counsel for another intervenor. Counsel would be of assistance to us in drafting interrogatories, participating in technical conferences and participating in the settlement conference. In addition, legal counsel would assist us in cross-examination and the drafting of any final arguments, if required.

As our interest in this proceeding is a relatively narrow one, we do not believe that any legal costs incurred would be significant. We do believe that legal counsel would provide us with valuable assistance that would ensure our intervention is focused, responsible and helpful to the Board. We

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appreciate the Board's consideration of this matter as we seek assurance that we would be able to recover our legal costs incurred as an intervenor in this proceeding.

Our mailing address is:

Balsam Lake Coalition

c/o Nicholas Copes

14 Baymark Rd.

Thornhill, Ont.

L3T3X9

[ncopes@sympatico.ca](mailto:ncopes@sympatico.ca)

Yours truly,

(original signed by)

Nicholas Copes

Balsam Lake Coalition

Cc: Hydro One Regulatory

Don Rogers, Rogers Partners

Jennifer Lea, O.E.B.