



EB-2013-0192

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

AND IN THE MATTER OF a proceeding commenced on the Board's own motion to consider whether proposed amendments to the licence of the Ontario Power Authority (the "OPA") (EO-2010-0220) intended to reflect the OPA's obligations in the regional planning process, are appropriate.

BEFORE: Marika Hare
Presiding Member

Emad Elsayed
Member

DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS
June 17, 2014

Background

On October 18, 2012, the Board issued its *Report of the Board – A Renewed Regulatory Framework for Electricity Distributors: A Performance Based Approach* (the "RRFE Report"). In the RRFE Report, the Board concluded that infrastructure planning on a regional basis is required to ensure that regional issues and requirements are effectively integrated into utility planning processes, and indicated that it would establish a process in order to move to a more structured approach to regional infrastructure planning.

The Board convened a stakeholder working group (the “Working Group”) to prepare a report to the Board (the “Working Group Report”) that set out the details of an appropriate regional infrastructure planning process. In addition to utilities and representatives of ratepayer groups, municipalities and generators, the OPA was a member of the Working Group. The Working Group Report, which was endorsed by the Board, identified that changes to the Board’s regulatory instruments and changes to the OPA’s licence (EO-2010-0220) were necessary to support the regional planning process.

The Board issued Procedural Order No. 1 on June 19, 2013 and determined that cost awards will be available to eligible parties under section 26 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* in relation to this proceeding. The Board also determined that the costs to be awarded will be recovered from the OPA.

Eight parties sought cost award eligibility; Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (“CME”), Building Owners and Managers Association (“BOMA”), Association of Power Producers of Ontario (“APPRO”), Ontario Sustainable Energy Association (“OSEA”), Ontario Energy Storage Alliance (“OESA”), Northwatch, the Ojibways of Pic River First Nation (“PFRN”) and Northwestern Ontario Associated Chambers of Commerce (“NOACC”). The Board confirmed that the above noted intervenors are eligible for an award of costs based on the criteria for eligibility set out in section 3 of the *Board’s Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

On October 21, 2013, the Board issued its Decision and Order, in which it set out the process for intervenors to file their cost claim and to respond to any objections raised by the OPA.

The Board received cost claims from BOMA, CME, NOACC, Northwatch, OSEA and OESA. PFRN and APPRO did not file cost claims.

No objections were received from the OPA.

Board Findings

The Board finds that BOMA, CME, NOACC, Northwatch, OSEA and OESA shall be granted for 100% of their claimed costs of participating in this proceeding. The Board finds that each party’s claims are reasonable and will be reimbursed by the OPA.

THE BOARD THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:

1. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, the OPA shall immediately pay:
 - Building Owners and Managers Association \$1,327.73;
 - Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters \$1,597.54;
 - Northwatch \$1,506.01;
 - Northwestern Ontario Associated Chambers of Commerce \$5,159.00
 - Ontario Energy Storage Alliance \$3,899.63 and;
 - Ontario Sustainable Energy Association \$2,486.08.
2. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, the OPA shall pay the Board's costs of and incidental to, this proceeding immediately upon receipt of the Board's invoice.

DATED at Toronto, June 17, 2014

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary