

September 17, 2014

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street
P.O. Box 2319
Toronto, Ontario
M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

Re: EB-2014-0116 Toronto Hydro-Electric System Limited – Rates 2015-2019

I am a consultant to the Consumers Council of Canada (“Council”). I have been instructed by my client to intervene in the Application made by Toronto Hydro-Electric System Limited (“THESL”) to the Ontario Energy Board for rates effective May 1, 2015. THESL is seeking approval of rates for a five-year period. The Council is a public-interest entity which represents the interests of residential consumers in Ontario. The Board’s order in this proceeding will ultimately impact the rates that residential consumers pay for the delivery of natural gas.

On June 23, 2014, the Council filed with the Board, pursuant to Rule 22.03 of the Ontario Energy Board’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, a document describing the Council, its mandate and objectives, membership, the constituency represented, and the types of activities the Council carries out. In addition, we provided a list of the individuals authorized to represent the Council in Board proceedings.

The nature and scope of the Council’s intended participation in the proceeding will be the following:

1. To assess the reasonableness of the overall rate-setting plan proposed by THESL and its various components;
2. To consider the reasonableness of THESL’s forecasts of costs and revenues over the plan term;
3. To assess THESL’s proposals regarding cost allocation and rate design;
4. To propose, if required, alternatives to THESL’s proposals in order to ensure the interests of residential consumers are sufficiently protected throughout the term of the rate-setting plan.

The Council intends to participate in any pre-hearing procedures, including interrogatories, technical conferences and settlement conferences. The Council will also participate in any oral hearing of this matter as well as any other Board mandated steps in the proceeding.

The Council intends to ask for an order of costs in this proceeding. The Council has participated in many of the applications of THESL over a long period of time. In all of those proceedings the Council has been recognized as being eligible for an award of costs. In the absence of an award of costs the Council would be unable to participate in this proceeding.

Copies of all Board Notices and hard copies of the Applicant’s evidence should be sent to me, at 62 Hillside Avenue East, Toronto, Ontario, M4S 1T5. My telephone number is 416-322-7936 and my e-mail is jgirvan@uniserve.com.

Please let us know if any further information from the Council is required at this time.

Yours truly,

Julie E. Girvan

Julie E. Girvan

CC: Ken Whitehurst, Consumers Council of Canada
Amanda Klein, THESL