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Kristen Walli  
Board Secretary  
Ontario Energy Board  
PO Box 2319  
27th Floor 2300 Young Street  
Toronto Ontario M4P 1E4

February 24, 2015

**RE: Applications for 2016 Electricity Rates**

Dear Ms. Walli,

With reference to the letter dated January 29, 2015 and referring to "Applications for 2016 Electricity Rates", Atikokan Hydro requests to defer filing a cost of service for 2016 electricity rates.

Atikokan Hydro's customer base has not changed significantly and Atikokan Hydro's costs are stable since the 2012 cost of service application and decision. In the past Atikokan Hydro has noted that the costs of filing a full cost of service study have been extremely high. Given that our customer base is stable and our costs are stable, Atikokan Hydro would like permission to defer filing a full Cost of Service. Atikokan Hydro would like to file on an annual IRM basis.

Atikokan Hydro has reviewed the requirements for filing, and has noted that a DS Plan [Distribution System Plan] complete with customer feedback [survey] would be part of the filing.

Atikokan Hydro has committed significant resources in the 2015 budget as well as a commitment for more resources in 2016 in order to complete a thorough asset condition management assessment to facilitate the development of its DS Plan by 2017. Section 5.1.3 of Filing\_Reqs\_Dx\_Applications\_ch\_1.2.3.5\_20130717 would indicate that Atikokan Hydro must file its DS Plan with the board within 5 years of its last Cost of Service Plan, or as part of its next cost of service.

In conclusion, given that revenues, expenses and customer base are stable, and that Atikokan Hydro would not have a DS Plan ready to be part of a 2016 filing, Atikokan Hydro respectfully asks that the requirement to file a cost of service application be deferred from the 2016 schedule, and that Atikokan Hydro be allowed to continue to file on an annual IRM basis.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wilf Thorburn". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "W" and "T".

Wilf Thorburn  
CEO / Sec / Treas  
Atikokan Hydro Inc.  
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