Ontario Energy Board Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario



EB-2014-0099

### North Bay Hydro Distribution Ltd.

#### Application for an order approving just and reasonable rates and other charges for electricity distribution to be effective May 1, 2015.

# PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 2 May 12, 2015

North Bay Hydro Distribution Ltd. (North Bay Hydro) filed a cost of service application with the Ontario Energy Board (the OEB) on December 15, 2015 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 North Bay Hydro charges for electricity distribution, to be effective May 1, 2015.

Procedural Order No. 1 was issued on March 19, 2015 which, among other things, made provisions for OEB staff to file an Issues List agreed to by all parties by May 8, 2015.

On May 8, 2015, OEB staff filed a letter advising the Board that the parties were unable to reach an agreement on a draft Issues List. OEB staff noted that there was only one issue for which agreement could not be reached between the parties. OEB staff provided a draft Issues List which incorporated all of the agreed-to issues.

The draft Issues List filed by OEB staff has been included as Appendix A to this Procedural Order. The Board makes provision below for written submissions on the draft Issues List, followed by written reply submissions from all parties on any issues. Submissions should address additions to or modification of the draft Issues List. After considering these submissions the Board will determine a final Issues List.

# THE BOARD ORDERS THAT:

- 1. If North Bay Hydro or intervenors wish to comment on the draft Issues List, they shall file written submissions with the Board and deliver them to all parties on or before **May 13, 2015.**
- 2. North Bay Hydro and intervenors wishing to respond to any comments on the draft Issues List shall file written reply submissions with the Board and deliver them to all parties on or before **May 15, 2015** no later than 11:59 a.m.

All filings to the Board must quote the file number, EB-2014-0099, be made electronically through the Board's web portal at

<u>https://www.pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/</u>, in searchable/unrestricted PDF format. Two paper copies must also be filed at the Board's address provided below. Filings must clearly state the sender's name, postal address and telephone number, fax number and e-mail address. Parties must use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the RESS Document Guideline found at <u>http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/OEB/Industry</u>. If the web portal is not available parties may email their documents to the address below. Those who do not have internet access are required to submit all filings on a CD in PDF format, along with two paper copies. Those who do not have computer access are required to file 7 paper copies.

Unless otherwise stated, all communications should be directed to the attention of the Board Secretary at the address below, and be received no later than 4:45 p.m. on the required date.

With respect to distribution lists for all electronic correspondence and materials related to this proceeding, parties must include the Case Manager, Stephen Vetsis at <u>Stephen.Vetsis@ontarioenergyboard.ca</u> and Board Counsel, Michael Millar at <u>Michael.Millar@ontarioenergyboard.ca</u>.

## ADDRESS

Ontario Energy Board P.O. Box 2319 2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor Toronto ON M4P 1E4 Attention: Board Secretary

E-mail: <u>boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca</u> Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (Toll free) Fax: 416-440-7656

DATED at Toronto, May 12, 2015

### **ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary

#### DRAFT ISSUES LIST EB-2014-0099 North Bay Hydro Distribution Ltd. ("North Bay Hydro")

### 1. PLANNING

## 1.1 Capital

Is the level of planned capital expenditures appropriate and is the rationale for planning and pacing choices appropriate and adequately explained, giving due consideration to:

- customer feedback and preferences;
- productivity;
- benchmarking of costs;
- reliability and service quality;
- impact on distribution rates;
- trade-offs with OM&A spending;
- government-mandated obligations; and
- the objectives of the Applicant and its customers.

# 1.2 OM&A

Is the level of planned OM&A expenditures appropriate and is the rationale for planning choices appropriate and adequately explained, giving due consideration to:

- customer feedback and preferences;
- productivity;
- benchmarking of costs;
- reliability and service quality;
- impact on distribution rates;
- trade-offs with capital spending;
- > government-mandated obligations; and
- the objectives of the Applicant and its customers.

# 2. REVENUE REQUIREMENT

- **2.1** Are all elements of the Base Revenue Requirement reasonable, and have they been appropriately determined in accordance with Board policies and practices?
- **2.2** Has the Base Revenue Requirement been accurately determined based on these elements?

# 3. LOAD FORECAST, COST ALLOCATION AND RATE DESIGN

- **3.1** Are the proposed load and customer forecast, loss factors, CDM adjustments and resulting billing determinants appropriate, and, to the extent applicable, are they an appropriate reflection of the energy and demand requirements of the applicant's customers?
- **3.2** Is the proposed cost allocation methodology, allocations, and revenue-to-cost ratios appropriate?
- **3.3** Are the applicant's proposals for rate design appropriate?
- **3.4** Are the proposed Retail Transmission Service Rates and Low Voltage service rates appropriate?

# 4. ACCOUNTING

- **4.1** Have all impacts of any changes in accounting standards, policies, estimates and adjustments been properly identified and recorded, and is the rate-making treatment of each of these impacts appropriate?
- **4.2** Are the applicant's proposals for deferral and variance accounts, including the balances in the existing accounts and their disposition and the continuation of existing accounts, appropriate?

# 5. OTHER

**5.1** Is the proposed effective and implementation date of May 1, 2015 appropriate?