

1 **EXHIBIT 5 - COST OF CAPITAL AND CAPITAL STRUCTURE**

2

3 **Response to Ontario Energy Board Staff Interrogatory 5-Staff-82**

4

5 **Ref: Exhibit 5, Tab 1, Schedule 1, p. 3 and Attachment 3 – Affiliated Debt**

6

7 **Interrogatory:**

8

9 On page 3, Kingston Hydro states that the interest rate on its long term affiliated debt of
10 \$10.9M remains at 5.87% as per a promissory note dated November 28, 2012.

11

- 12 a) Please explain why Kingston Hydro is not applying the OEB's current deemed
13 long-term rate of 4.77% to its affiliated debt, given that the note might be called
14 within 366 days, which is within the 2016 test year period.

15

16 **Response:**

17

- 18 a) Kingston Hydro has applied the interest rate of 5.87%, being the deemed rate
19 ordered by the Board in EB-2010-0136.

1 **EXHIBIT 5 – COST OF CAPITAL AND CAPITAL STRUCTURE**

2
3 **Response to Ontario Energy Board Staff Interrogatory 5-Staff-83**

4
5 **Ref: Exhibit 5, Tab 1, Schedule 1, p. 4-5**

6
7 **Interrogatory:**

8
9 In Exhibit 5, Kingston Hydro provided details on its applied for long-term debt rate for
10 the 2016-2020 period, proposing the OEB deemed debt rate as of April 25, 2015 of
11 4.77%.

12
13 a) Please confirm that Kingston Hydro is requesting a long-term debt rate of 4.77%
14 for each of the new debt instruments to be issued between 2016 and 2020.

15
16 b) If yes, explain why.

17
18 c) Does Kingston Hydro expect to approach Infrastructure Ontario for any of the debt
19 instruments during the custom IR period 2016-2020?

20
21 d) Please explain why Kingston Hydro should not update its debt portfolio annually in
22 conjunction with its annual cost of capital parameter updates.

23
24 **Response:**

25
26 a) Confirmed

27

- 28 b) Kingston Hydro is requesting this rate for new debt as it is the known long term
29 debt rate issued by the Board at the time of filing the application.
30
- 31 c) Kingston Hydro will consider negotiating with Infrastructure Ontario for future debt
32 requirements.
33
- 34 d) Kingston Hydro applied for long term debt of 4.77% in this application for its debt
35 issuance for 2016-2020 in order to try to match its costs for its capital program to
36 its financing costs.

1 **EXHIBIT 5 - COST OF CAPITAL AND CAPITAL STRUCTURE**

2

3 **Response to Energy Probe Interrogatory 5-Energy Probe-33**

4

5 **Ref: Exhibit 5, Tab 1 Schedule 1, page 1**

6

7 **Interrogatory:**

8

9 The evidence indicates that Kingston proposes to adjust the cost of capital parameters
10 when the Board updates them for rates effective in the 2016 calendar year and each
11 year of the custom IR period.

12

13 Does Kingston propose to adjust the deemed capital structure if the Board were to
14 adjust the deemed capital structure as part of the update to the cost of capital
15 parameters at some point during the custom IR period?

16

17 **Response:**

18

19 Kingston proposes to adjust the deemed capital structure if the Board were to adjust the
20 deemed capital structure as part of its annual Custom IR update to the cost of capital
21 parameters.

1 **EXHIBIT 5 – COST OF CAPITAL AND CAPITAL STRUCTURE**

2
3 **Response to Energy Probe Interrogatory 5-Energy Probe-34**

4
5 **Ref: Exhibit 5, Tab 1 Schedule 1, pages 4-5**

6
7 **Interrogatory:**

- 8
- 9 a) Please confirm that for each of the proposed long term debt issuances shown on
10 pages 4 and 5 for 2017 through 2020 (i.e. excluding the 2015 and 2016
11 issuances), the rates to be used will be updated based on the OEB deemed long
12 term debt rate in effect in the fall of the year before the issuance as part of the
13 annual update. For example, the \$1.0 million forecast for December 1, 2017
14 would be updated to the OEB's deemed long term debt rate as set by the Board in
15 the fall of 2016. If this cannot be confirmed, please explain how the rate for the
16 December 1, 2017 issue would be set.
- 17
- 18 b) Is the amount of each issuance in each year to be set as part of this application, or
19 can the amount, and term, be adjusted each year as part of the annual update, in
20 addition to the rate?
- 21
- 22 c) As part of each annual update, will the cost of the actual embedded debt be
23 updated to reflect actual issuances and costs for the previous years? As an
24 example, when the long term debt rate for 2017 is determined in the fall of 2016,
25 will the cost of the embedded debt reflect the actual issuance and rates associated
26 with 2015 mid-December loan and/or the December 1, 2016 loan? Please explain
27 fully.
- 28

29 **Response:**

30

31 a) Kingston Hydro has requested for the long term debt rate to be approved for those
32 debt issuances in 2017-2020 based on the OEB deemed debt rate in effect as of
33 April 25, 2015.

34

35 b) Kingston Hydro has requested for the amounts to be set as part of this
36 application.

37

38 c) Kingston Hydro has not proposed any annual updates for long term debt during
39 the term of the Custom IR process.

1 **EXHIBIT 5 – COST OF CAPITAL AND CAPITAL STRUCTURE**

2

3 **Response to Energy Probe Interrogatory 5-Energy Probe-35**

4

5 **Ref: Exhibit 5, Tab 1 Schedule 1, page 4**

6

7 **Interrogatory:**

8

9 a) Will the forecast for the 2016 long term debt of \$3.5 million to be executed on
10 December 1, 2016 be updated based on the OEB deemed long term debt rate to
11 be released in the fall of this year?

12

13 b) Is Kingston proposing any update for the mid-December 2015 issuance of \$5
14 million from the April 25, 2015 Infrastructure Ontario rate of 3.39%?

15

16 **Response:**

17

18 a) Kingston proposes to update rates for new debt if available.

19

20 b) Kingston proposes to update its mid-December issuance of \$5 million to the
21 current Infrastructure Ontario rate of 3.61% (as of September 2, 2015).

1 **EXHIBIT 5 – COST OF CAPITAL AND CAPITAL STRUCTURE**

2
3 **Response to Energy Probe Interrogatory 5-Energy Probe-36**

4
5 **Ref: Exhibit 5, Tab 1 Schedule 1, Attachment 3**

6
7 **Interrogatory:**

- 8
- 9 a) What was the Board's deemed long term debt rate when the Amended Promissory
10 Note was signed on November 28, 2012?
- 11
- 12 b) Please confirm that the Amended Promissory Note is callable within the custom IR
13 period.
- 14
- 15 c) Can Kingston Hydro pay off the affiliate debt if it so chooses to do so?
- 16
- 17 d) If the response to (c) is yes, what are the penalties, if any, associated with
18 repayment of the loan?
- 19
- 20 e) If the response to (c) is yes, has Kingston Hydro estimated the savings that could
21 be had by replacing the affiliate loan with third party debt at the lower rates
22 currently available in the marketplace today? If not, why not?
- 23
- 24 f) Please provide a copy of the demand promissory note earlier executed by
25 Kingston Hydro Corporate to which the amended promissory note refers.
- 26

27 **Response:**

28

-
- 29 a) The Board's deemed long term debt rate when the Amended Promissory Note was
30 signed on November 28, 2012 was 4.41%. However, it is important to note that
31 Kingston Hydro was ordered by the Board¹ to use a 5.87% deemed long term debt
32 rate for that debt instrument, being the the deemed debt rate that was in place at
33 the time of the resolution of that instrument on July 6, 2010.
34
- 35 b) Confirmed.
36
- 37 c) Yes.
38
- 39 d) None.
40
- 41 e) Kingston Hydro has not estimated the savings that could be achieved by replacing
42 affiliate loan with third party debt as Kingston Hydro's total debt is projected to
43 increase throughout the Custom IR term and 3rd party financing will be used for the
44 purpose of new financing requirements. In addition, Kingston Hydro's affiliate debt
45 does not require any principal repayments.
46
- 47 f) As noted in the evidence attached at Exhibit 5, Tab 1 Schedule 1, Attachment 3,
48 and as put on the record in EB-2010-0136, Kingston Hydro was not able to locate
49 an originating promissory note. This fact was mentioned in the Decision and Order
50 referenced in the footnote below.

¹ EB-2010-0136, Decision and Order dated June 23, 2011.

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3 **Response to Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition Interrogatory 5-VECC-34**

4

5 **Reference: E5/Appendix 2-OB**

6

7 **Interrogatory:**

8

9 a) Appendix 2-OB shows Kingston Hydro acquiring 30 year long-term debt in the
10 amount of \$291,667. Please explain why such a nominal amount of long-term
11 debt would be procured in 2016.

12

13 b) Does Kingston Hydro have any debt that is procured by/through Kingston Utilities?

14

15 **Response:**

16

17 a) Debt of \$3.5 million is planned to be procured effective December 1, 2016. The
18 average outstanding debt related to this loan for 2016 would be \$291,667.

19

20 b) All Kingston Hydro debt is procured by the officers of Kingston Hydro.

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3 **Response to Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition Interrogatory 5-VECC-35**

4
5 **Reference: E5/**

6
7 **Interrogatory:**

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9 Please provide a detailed description on the anticipated method of the annual cost of
10 capital adjustment. Please specify the expected timing of the annual adjustment filing,
11 the actual and forecast debt that would be utilized and the rate base (actual or plan
12 forecast) that would be used to calculate the cost of capital.

13
14 **Response:**

15
16 Kingston Hydro has requested the long term debt rate be set as part of this proceeding.

17
18 The short term debt rate and return on equity have been requested to be updated
19 during the annual Customer IR update process.

20
21 The RRWF would be utilized to update the revenue requirement. By way of example, for
22 the first annual update for January 1, 2017 rates, Kingston Hydro anticipates submitting
23 its annual update by August 31, 2016.

24
25 The starting point for rate base for 2017 – would be based on the decisions rendered in
26 this proceeding. Average fixed assets for 2017 would be utilized per the Decision in this
27 proceeding. The starting point for controllable expenditures would be the 2016 OM&A
28 plus property taxes. Kingston Hydro would then adjust its 2016 controllable expenses by

29 the GDP-IPI less the productivity factor for its cohort. Cost of power would then be
30 updated based on revised RPP prices and Hydro One's updated retail transmission and
31 connection rates. Cost of capital parameters would be updated for the latest known
32 short term debt and common equity cost rates. The Pils model would then be updated
33 and a revised revenue requirement calculated. Rates would then be adjusted based on
34 the 2016 methodology as decided in this proceeding.