



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

**DECISION AND ORDER ON COST
AWARDS**

EB-2014-0099

NORTH BAY HYDRO DISTRIBUTION LTD.

Application for electricity distribution rates and other charges effective May 1, 2015.

BEFORE: Christine Long
Presiding Member

Allison Duff
Member

February 12, 2016

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

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.

The OEB granted Energy Probe Research Foundation (EP), the North Bay Taxpayer's Association (NBTA), School Energy Coalition (SEC) and Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC) intervenor status and cost award eligibility.

On November 12, 2015, the OEB issued its Decision and Order, in which it set out the process for intervenors to file their cost claims, for North Bay Hydro to object to the claims and for intervenors to respond to any objections raised by North Bay Hydro.

The OEB received cost claims from EP, NBTA, SEC and VECC. On December 31, 2015, North Bay Hydro filed its response indicating that it had no objections to the cost claims filed. North Bay Hydro noted a potential discrepancy with regards to the costs claimed by Mr. Rennick. While Mr. Rennick included travel expenses for returning to North Bay on May 20, 2015, he also submitted a claim for a hotel in Toronto for the evening of May 20, 2015.

In reply, Mr. Rennick submitted that the NBTA's cost claim contained an error. Mr. Rennick indicated that the date for the travel costs for the trip from Toronto to North Bay should read May 21, 2015 rather than May 20, 2015.

OEB Findings

The OEB has reviewed the claims filed by Energy Probe, NBTA, SEC and VECC to ensure that they are compliant with the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

The OEB finds that all parties are eligible for 100% of their reasonably incurred costs of participating in this proceeding. The OEB finds that Energy Probe's, NBTA's, SEC's and VECC's claims are reasonable and each of these claims shall be reimbursed by North Bay Hydro.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, North Bay Hydro shall immediately pay the following amounts to the intervenors for their costs:
 - Energy Probe Research Foundation \$28,216.46
 - North Bay Taxpayer's Association \$884.65
 - School Energy Coalition \$24,542.47
 - Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition \$24,724.10
2. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, North Bay Hydro shall pay the OEB's costs of, and incidental to, this proceeding immediately upon receipt of the OEB's invoice.

DATED at Toronto February 12, 2016

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary