Ontario Energy Board P.O. Box 2319 27<sup>th</sup> Floor 2300 Yonge Street Toronto ON M4P 1E4 Telephone: 416- 481-1967 Facsimile: 416- 440-7656 Toll free: 1-888-632-6273 Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario C.P. 2319 27° étage 2300, rue Yonge Toronto ON M4P 1E4 Téléphone : 416-481-1967 Télécopieur: 416-440-7656 Numéro sans frais: 1-888-632-6273



**BY E-MAIL** 

July 5, 2016

Chris White President Erie Thames Powerlines Corporation P.O. Box 157 143 Bell Street Ingersoll ON N5C 3K5 cwhite@eriethamespower.com

Dear Mr. White:

## Re: Applications for 2017 Electricity Rates

This letter is in response to your letter expressing an interest to defer Erie Thames Powerlines Corporation's (Erie Thames Powerlines) rebasing of its rates beyond the 2017 rate year.

The OEB has reviewed your letter, as well as Erie Thames Powerlines' financial and non-financial scorecard performance from 2010 to 2015. Based on this review, the OEB has concluded that it will not require Erie Thames Powerlines' 2017 rates to be set on a cost of service basis. The OEB will place Erie Thames Powerlines on the list of distributors whose rates will be scheduled for rebasing for the 2018 rate year.

If Erie Thames Powerlines intends to seek a rate adjustment for 2017 rates, the OEB expects Erie Thames to adhere to the process for Price Cap Incentive Rate-setting applications for the 2017 rate year.

This is the second year that Erie Thames Powerlines has sought a deferral to filing a cost of service rate application. The Annual Incentive Rate-setting Index is the method that was developed for distributors intending longer periods without rebasing. In the absence of a 2018 cost of service rate application from Erie Thames Powerlines, the OEB will apply the Annual IR Index method. The OEB will also consider whether a distribution system plan will be required at that time.

Yours truly,

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary