



EB-2016-0089

Lakefront Utilities Inc.

**Application for electricity distribution rates
beginning January 1, 2017.**

ISSUES LIST DECISION

August 19, 2016

Lakefront Utilities Inc. (Lakefront Utilities) filed a complete cost of service application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on April 29, 2016 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 Lakefront Utilities charges for electricity distribution, to be effective January 1, 2017.

A Notice of Hearing (Notice) was issued on June 6, 2016. Each of the Cobourg Taxpayers Association (CTA), Energy Probe Research Foundation (Energy Probe) and the Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC) applied for, and were granted, intervenor status in the proceeding.

The OEB issued Procedural Order No. 2 on July 7, 2016, which required, among other things, that OEB staff would file a proposed issues list which had been agreed to by all parties on August 15, 2016. In the event that parties were unable to reach an agreement on a proposed issues list, OEB staff was to inform the OEB in writing.

On August 15, 2016, OEB staff informed the OEB that the parties had reached an agreement on a proposed issues list.

Decision

The OEB has reviewed the proposed issues list and approves it for the purpose of this proceeding. The approved issues list is attached as Schedule A.

DATED at Toronto, **August 19, 2016**

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary

SCHEDULE A
ISSUES LIST DECISION
LAKEFRONT UTILITIES INC.
August 19, 2016

**Approved Issues List
EB-2016-0089
Lakefront Utilities Inc.**

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 Revenue Requirement reasonable, and have they been appropriately determined in accordance with OEB policies and practices?

2.2 Has the 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 number and energy and demand requirements of the applicant's customers?

- 3.2** Are the proposed cost allocation methodology, allocations, and revenue-to-cost ratios appropriate?
- 3.3** Are the applicant's proposals, including the proposed fixed/variable splits, 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?