



EB-2016-0105

Thunder Bay Hydro Electricity Distribution Inc.

**Application for electricity distribution rates beginning
May 1, 2017**

**INTERIM RATE ORDER AND PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 2
March 29, 2017**

Thunder Bay Hydro Electricity Distribution Inc. (Thunder Bay Hydro) filed a cost of service application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on September 9, 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 Thunder Bay Hydro charges for electricity distribution, to be effective May 1, 2017.

The OEB issued a letter on March 24, 2017 approving a second request to defer scheduled dates for the proceeding established in Procedural Order No. 1. In addition to approving the delay, the OEB cancelled the oral hearing scheduled for April 11, 2017 and indicated that further procedural direction would be issued shortly.

On March 28, 2017, the OEB received a third request to extend the date for filing a settlement proposal to March 31, 2017. Thunder Bay Hydro previously informed the OEB that there were a number of unsettled issues that would likely require hearing.

The OEB approves the requested extension and finds it necessary to establish dates for an oral hearing. Whether a settlement proposal is filed or not, the OEB has determined that an oral hearing will be held in Toronto on April 20, 2017 which may continue on April 21, 2017. If a settlement proposal is filed, the OEB will hear all unsettled issues orally.

A presentation of any settlement proposal will be made at the commencement of the oral hearing. In establishing the Toronto location, the OEB considered the requests from

some intervenors that the hearing be held in Thunder Bay. The OEB also reviewed the summary of the community meeting held in Thunder Bay on November 23, 2016 and the input received from the community concerning the application.

Given the delay in the schedule, the OEB will declare Thunder Bay Hydro's current rates interim as of May 1, 2017 until such time as new rates are approved. This determination of interim rates is made without prejudice to the OEB's final determination of the effective date for rates arising from the application.

It is necessary to make provision for the following matters related to this proceeding. Further procedural orders may be issued by the OEB.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:

1. Thunder Bay Hydro's current Tariff of Rates and Charges shall be made interim as of May 1, 2017 and until such time as a final rate order is issued by the OEB.
2. An oral hearing on all unsettled issues will commence on April 20, 2017 in the OEB's hearing room at 2300 Yonge Street, 25th floor, Toronto. The hearing may continue on April 21, 2017, if necessary. The presentation of any settlement proposal will be made at the commencement of the oral hearing on April 20, 2017.

DATED at Toronto, **March 29, 2017**

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary