



EB-2017-0035

Cooperative Hydro Embrun Inc.

**Application for electricity distribution rates beginning
January 1, 2018**

**PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 3
October 31, 2017**

Cooperative Hydro Embrun Inc. (Cooperative Hydro Embrun) filed a cost of service application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) 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 Cooperative Hydro Embrun charges for electricity distribution, to be effective January 1, 2018. The application was accepted by the OEB as complete as of June 22, 2017.

Procedural Order No.1, which set out dates for various steps in the proceeding, was issued on September 21, 2017.

Procedural Order No. 2, which revised the dates for the various steps in the proceeding as a result of an extension request by Cooperative Hydro Embrun to file its interrogatory responses, was issued on October 10, 2017.

Procedural Orders Nos. 1 and 2 both indicated that the OEB may provide, in accordance with the *Practice Direction on Settlement Conferences*, that OEB staff be a party to the Settlement Conference and any resulting settlement proposal.

The OEB has determined that OEB staff will be a party to the Settlement Conference and any settlement proposal arising from the Settlement Conference. The procedural timelines as set out in Procedural Order No. 2 remain unchanged.

Parties should be mindful that any settlement proposal must be supported with sufficient rationale for the settlement of the issues for which settlement is reached. Parties should indicate how the elements of the settlement proposal are consistent with the OEB's *Renewed Regulatory Framework for Electricity Distributors: A Performance-Based Approach*, and other OEB policies, as well as prior applicable OEB decisions.

The OEB finds it is necessary to make provision for the matters set out below related to this proceeding.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:

1. Cooperative Hydro Embrun shall file with the OEB complete written responses to all interrogatories and serve them on VECC and OEB staff by **November 3, 2017**.
2. OEB staff shall file a proposed issues list, or, alternatively, shall advise the OEB in writing that the parties and OEB staff have been unable to reach an agreement on a draft issues list by **November 10, 2017**.
3. A Settlement Conference among Cooperative Hydro Embrun, VECC and OEB staff will be convened on **November 27, 2017** starting at 9:30 a.m., at 2300 Yonge Street, 25th floor, Toronto. If necessary, the Settlement Conference will continue on **November 28, 2017**.
4. Any settlement proposal arising from the Settlement Conference shall be filed with the OEB on or before **December 20, 2017**. In addition to outlining the terms of any settlement, the settlement proposal should contain a list of any unsettled issues, indicating with reasons whether the parties believe those issues should be dealt with by way of oral or written hearing.
5. If there is no settlement proposal arising from the Settlement Conference, Cooperative Hydro Embrun shall file a statement to that effect with the OEB by **November 30, 2017**. In that event, parties shall file and serve on the other

parties by **December 7, 2017** any submissions on which issues shall be heard in writing, and for which issues the OEB should hold an oral hearing.

6. The OEB is setting a tentative date of **January 12, 2018** from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at 2300 Yonge Street, 25th Floor, Toronto, for Cooperative Hydro Embrun to present to the OEB any settlement proposal and a summary of any unsettled issues in the case. OEB staff will, at the direction of the OEB, confirm or amend this date in subsequent correspondence.

All filings to the OEB must quote the file number, EB-2017-0035 and be made electronically in searchable/unrestricted PDF format through the OEB's web portal at <https://www.pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/>. Two paper copies must also be filed at the OEB's address provided below. Filings must clearly state the sender's name, postal address and telephone number, fax number and e-mail address. Parties must use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the RESS Document Guideline found at <https://www.oeb.ca/industry>. If the web portal is not available parties may email their documents to the address below. Those who do not have internet access are required to submit all filings on a CD in PDF format, along with two paper copies. Those who do not have computer access are required to file 7 paper copies.

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Board Secretary at the address below, and be received no later than 4:45 p.m. on the required date.

With respect to distribution lists for all electronic correspondence and materials related to this proceeding, parties must include the Case Manager, Georgette Vlahos at Georgette.Vlahos@oeb.ca and OEB Counsel, James Sidlofsky at James.Sidlofsky@oeb.ca.

ADDRESS

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Attention: Board Secretary

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Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (Toll free)
Fax: 416-440-7656

DATED at Toronto, **October 31, 2017**

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary