



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

**DECISION AND ORDER ON COST
AWARDS**

EB-2016-0105

**THUNDER BAY HYDRO ELECTRICITY
DISTRIBUTION INC.**

**Application for electricity distribution rates and other charges
beginning May 1, 2017**

BEFORE: Allison Duff
Presiding Member

Paul Pastirik
Member

November 28, 2017

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

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 granted the Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario (AMPCO), School Energy Coalition (SEC) and Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC) intervenor status and cost award eligibility.

On September 21, 2017, the OEB issued its Decision and Order setting out the process for intervenors to file their cost claims, for Thunder Bay Hydro to object to the claims and for intervenors to respond to any objections raised by Thunder Bay Hydro. On October 19, 2017, the OEB issued its Final Rate Order.

The OEB received cost claims from AMPCO, SEC and VECC. No objections were received from Thunder Bay Hydro.

Findings

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

The OEB approves number of hours included in AMPCO's and VECC's cost claims. The OEB finds SEC's claim of 35.9 hours for preparation time prior to filing interrogatories to be excessive compared to the other intervenors. AMPCO claimed 20.5 hours and VECC claimed 15.25 hours yet addressed issues similar to those addressed by SEC. The OEB reduces SEC's claim by 10 hours. The OEB notes that with this reduction, SEC's award still exceeds awards to other intervenors by more than \$10,000.

The claim of VECC requires a minor reduction to comply with the government's *Travel, Meal and Hospitality Expenses Directive* and to fix a calculation error in the total amount of tax claimed. The OEB finds that the claim of AMPCO and the adjusted claims of SEC and VECC are reasonable and each of these claims shall be reimbursed by Thunder Bay Hydro.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, Thunder Bay Hydro Electricity Distribution Inc. shall immediately pay the following amounts to the intervenors for their costs:

• Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario	\$49,133.08
• School Energy Coalition	\$62,125.14
• Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition	\$39,729.29

2. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, Thunder Bay Hydro Electricity Distribution Inc. shall pay the OEB's costs of, and incidental to, this proceeding immediately upon receipt of the OEB's invoice.

DATED at Toronto November 28, 2017

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary