

EB-2018-0014

# Alectra Utilities Corporation Guelph Hydro Electric Systems Inc.

Application for approvals to amalgamate
Alectra Utilities Corporation and Guelph Hydro Electric Systems Inc. and
continue operations as Alectra Utilities Corporation

# PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 1 May 22, 2018

Alectra Utilities Corporation (Alectra Utilities) and Guelph Hydro Electric Systems Inc. (Guelph Hydro) filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on March 8, 2018 under sections 18, 74 and 86 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998, S.O. 1998, c. 15, Schedule B for approval to amalgamate and continue operations as Alectra Utilities. The applicants are asking the OEB to approve:

- The purchase by Alectra Inc. of all the issued and outstanding shares of Guelph Hydro, held by Guelph Municipal Holdings Inc.
- Transfer of Guelph Hydro's distribution system to Alectra Utilities
- Transfer of Guelph Hydro's generation licence and rate orders to Alectra Utilities
- Amendments to Alectra Utilities' electricity distribution licence to include Guelph Hydro's service area

The OEB issued a Notice of Hearing on April 10, 2018. The last date for requesting intervenor status was April 30, 2018. The following parties applied for intervenor status:

- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 636 (IBEW)
- John and Barbara Barker
- Evelyn Grist
- Keith McEwen
- Power Workers' Union (PWU) (late intervention)

Evelyn Grist stated that she wishes to intervene only if the OEB holds an oral hearing.

No objections were received regarding the requests for intervenor status.

Each of the IBEW, PWU, John and Barbara Barker, Evelyn Grist and Keith McEwen is approved as an intervenor. The list of parties in this proceeding is attached as Schedule A to this Procedural Order.

The IBEW requested that the OEB hold an oral hearing due to the complexity of the matter, the number of persons affected and to allow affected parties to adequately participate in the proceeding. John and Barbara Barker and Keith McEwan also requested an oral hearing. The OEB will make its decision on the type of hearing later in the process.

# **Confidentiality of 2017 Audited Financial Statements**

On May 9, 2018, Alectra Utilities filed the 2017 audited financial statements for both Alectra Utilities and Guelph Hydro. Alectra Utilities has redacted certain information in the financial statements that it asserts relate to its unregulated business activities. Alectra Utilities states that the redacted information will not be provided because it is beyond the scope of this proceeding.

If Alectra Utilities is of the view that certain information in the 2017 audited financial statements should be treated as confidential, it must immediately file a request for confidentiality with the OEB in keeping with the requirements in Part 5 of the OEB's *Practice Direction of Confidential Filings*. Absent such a request, Alectra Utilities should refile the 2017 financial statements disclosing the redacted information.

## **Interrogatories**

At this time, provision will be made for written interrogatories. Parties should not engage in detailed exploration of items that do not appear to be relevant and material to the OEB's review of a consolidation application. In developing interrogatories, parties should refer to the OEB's *Handbook to Electricity Distributor and Transmitter Consolidations*, for what the OEB considers in its review. In making its decision on cost awards, the OEB will consider whether intervenors made reasonable efforts to ensure that their participation in the hearing was focused on material issues. Parties should consult sections 26 and 27 of the OEB's *Rules of Practice and Procedure* regarding required naming and numbering conventions and other matters related to interrogatories.

It is necessary to make provision for the following matters related to this proceeding. The OEB may issue further procedural orders from time to time.

#### IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

- 1. OEB staff, IBEW, PWU, John and Barbara Barker, Keith McEwan and Evelyn Grist shall request any information and material from the applicants that is in addition to the applicants' evidence and that is relevant to the hearing by written interrogatories filed with the OEB and served on all parties by **June 7, 2018**.
- 2. The applicants shall file with the OEB complete written responses to the interrogatories and serve them on all parties by **June 22, 2018**.

All filings to the OEB must quote the file number, **EB-2018-0014** and be made electronically in searchable/unrestricted PDF format through the OEB's web portal at <a href="https://pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/">https://pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/</a>. 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 <a href="http://www.oeb.ca/Industry">http://www.oeb.ca/Industry</a>. 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, Saleh Lavaee at <a href="mailto:Saleh.Lavaee@oeb.ca">Saleh.Lavaee@oeb.ca</a> and OEB Counsel, Ian Richler at <a href="mailto:Ian.Richler@oeb.ca">Ian.Richler@oeb.ca</a>.

# <u>ADDRESS</u>

Ontario Energy Board P.O. Box 2319 2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor Toronto ON M4P 1E4 Attention: Registrar

E-mail: BoardSec@oeb.ca
Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (Toll free)

Fax: 416-440-7656

DATED at Toronto, May 22, 2018

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD** 

By delegation, before: Kristi Sebalj

Original signed by

Kristi Sebalj Registrar

# SCHEDULE A LIST OF PARTICIPANTS ALECTRA UTILITIES CORPORATION GUELPH HYDRO ELECTRIC SYSTEMS EB-2018-0014 May 22, 2018

# **APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS**

May 23, 2018

# APPLICANTS Rep. and Address for Service

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# APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS

May 23, 2018

**INTERVENORS** Rep. and Address for Service

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**Independent Participants** John and Barbara Barker

**Independent Participants** 

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International Brotherhood of

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# **APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS**

May 23, 2018

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# **APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS**

May 23, 2018

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