



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

DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS

EB-2018-0235

EPCOR NATURAL GAS LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

Application for a rate adjustment for the period October 1, 2016 to December 31, 2019, approval of a fixed monthly charge for Rate 6 effective October 1, 2018, approval for disposition of certain deferral and variance accounts, and change in the start of the rate year, from October 1 to January 1, effective January 1, 2020.

BEFORE: Allison Duff
Presiding Member

Michael Janigan
Member

Susan Frank
Member

January 9, 2019

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

This is a decision of the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on a cost claim filed with respect to an EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership (EPCOR) proceeding.

EPCOR filed an application with the OEB on July 30, 2018 seeking approval to implement the following changes:

- Adjust rates for the period October 1, 2016 to December 31, 2019 under the OEB's 4th Generation Incentive Rate Mechanism (IRM) approach
- Establish a fixed monthly charge for Rate 6 which includes a single large industrial customer
- Change the start of the rate year from October 1 to January 1 starting January 1, 2020
- Dispose the balances in the Purchased Gas Transportation Variance Account, the Regulatory Expense Deferral Account and the IFRS Conversion Cost Deferral Account as of September 30, 2017.

The OEB granted the Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC) intervenor status and cost award eligibility. The parties reached a settlement on all issues in the proceeding and EPCOR filed a settlement proposal on November 21, 2018.

On December 6, 2018, the OEB issued its Decision and Rate Order in which it accepted the settlement proposal and set out the process for intervenors to file their cost claims, for EPCOR to object to the claims and for intervenors to respond to any objections raised by EPCOR.

The OEB received a cost claim from VECC. No objection was received from EPCOR.

Findings

The OEB has reviewed VECC's claim to ensure that it is compliant with the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*. The OEB finds that VECC's claim is reasonable and shall be reimbursed by EPCOR.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership shall immediately pay the Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition \$10,547.31.
2. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership shall pay the OEB's costs of, and incidental to, this proceeding immediately upon receipt of the OEB's invoice.

DATED at Toronto, January 9, 2019

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary