EB-2018-0316
Electricity Distributors
Association
Interrogatories to the SME
Page 1 of 8
Filed: February 25, 2019

Issue 1

EDA Interrogatory #1

Reference: Electricity Act

Pre-amble: The *Electricity Act* states:

Objects or nature of the business of the Smart Metering Entity

53.8 The objects of the Smart Metering Entity, if it is a corporation, or the nature of its business activities, if the Smart Metering Entity is a limited partnership or a partnership, include, in addition to any other objects or business activities, the following:

- 1. To plan and implement and, on an ongoing basis, oversee, administer and deliver any part of the smart metering initiative as required by regulation under this or any Act or directive made pursuant to sections 28.3 or 28.4 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, and, if so authorized, to have the exclusive authority to conduct these activities.
- 8. To recover, through just and reasonable rates, the costs and an appropriate return approved by the Board associated with the conduct of its activities.

Question:

- a. Please discuss whether the SME is a monopoly provider of access to SME data.
- b. Please provide the reference to the SME's evidence on the state of competition in the market for smart meter data; if a reference is not available please characterize the level of competition (e.g., perfect, workable) and provide objective information that supports this characterization.
- c. Please compare and contrast the SME's evidence and analysis of the state of competition, similar to the evidence filed in by CANDAS EB-2013-0324, in particular the evidence of Church and Jackson (e.g., Table 2 at page 32 of Jackson's evidence).
- d. Please reconcile the SME's proposal to charge market-based prices with s.53.8(8) of the *Electricity Act*.
- e. Please explain how a sole source provider can establish market based price levels.

EB-2018-0316

Electricity Distributors Association

Interrogatories to the SME Page 2 of 8

Filed: February 25, 2019

Issue 1

EDA Interrogatory #2

Reference: N/A

Question:

Please provide any OEB precedent that authorized a monopolist to charge market-based prices and for

each precedent please summarize the evidence, arguments and OEB findings on the state of

competition.

Issue 1

EDA Interrogatory #3

Reference: Exhibit A/Tab 3/Schedule 1/p. 1 lines 18-23

Preamble: The SME's presentation to stakeholders, "Third Party Access Update: Presentation and

Discussion with IESO's Stakeholder Advisory Committee" (October 17, 2018) references a phased

approach (p.7 and p. 13).

Question:

a. Please explain the status of the phased approach and the SME's current position on a phased

approach.

b. Please compare and contrast the phased approach to the unphased approach (e.g., using

resourcing, costs, timeline).

c. Please explain how the Orders sought in the subject application align with a phased approach.

Issue 1

EDA Interrogatory #4

Reference: Exhibit B/Tab 1/Schedule 1/p.3 line 9

Question:

Please identify the party that has title to Smart Meter data, the party or parties that have custody of

Smart Meter data.

EB-2018-0316 Electricity Distributors

Association Interrogatories to the SME

Page 3 of 8

Filed: February 25, 2019

Issue 1

EDA Interrogatory #5

Reference: Exhibit B/Tab 3/Schedule 1/p. 1, lines 6-11

Question:

a. Please provide the formula and discuss how it supports providing service at a market based

price.

b. Please discuss the data inputs to the formula and the available data source(s), and whether the

data is gathered from competitive market place.

c. Please assume that a party seeks more granular data; please describe the relationship between

greater granularity and

a. Costs

b. Price

Issue 1

EDA Interrogatory #6

Reference: Exhibit B/Tab 3/Schedule 1/p. 1, lines 17-19

Question:

a. Please explain the origin of the market pricing position.

b. Please provide the document that initially proposed the provision of data/services at market

prices.

c. Please provide the alternatives to market based pricing and the analysis of each alternative.

Issue 1

EDA Interrogatory #7

Reference: Exhibit B/Tab 1/Schedule 1/p.1, line 13

Preamble: The SME has been acquiring and de-identifying data since January 1, 2017.

Question:

a. Please provide an itemized list of the data requests received to date and the frequency of each

request.

EB-2018-0316 Electricity Distributors

Association Interrogatories to the SME

Page 4 of 8 Filed: February 25, 2019

b. Please quantify the costs incurred to acquire data and to manage requests for data; please state

the methodology used to quantify these costs (e.g., fully allocated, marginal, incremental).

Issue 2

EDA Interrogatory #8

Reference: Exhibit B/Tab 1/Schedule 1/p.3, line 9

Question:

a. Please provide the proposed Data Use Agreement and all other standard agreements that the

SME proposes to apply when providing data to a third party.

b. Please provide an analysis (e.g., by stakeholder) of the indemnifications and liabilities of the

Data Use Agreement.

c. Please assume that a third party has been given access to SME data and makes inappropriate

use of the data; please describe the actions that the SME could take and assess their efficacy.

Issue 2

EDA Interrogatory #9

Reference: Exhibit B/Tab 1/Schedule 1/p. 1 line 11 - Exhibit B/Tab 1/Schedule 1/p. 3, line 2

Question:

a. Please provide the IESO's rationale for including each of the 8 identified principles that will be

applied prior to granting access.

b. Please describe the enforceability of each of the 8 conditions.

c. Please describe the SME's testing of the principles and process governing access to data.

d. Please describe the threshold that a proponent must satisfy to be able to access data (e.g. if all 8

principles must be satisfied, if all of the mandatory principles must be satisfied, if a simple

majority of principles must be satisfied).

e. Please discuss whether the SME could rely on "Conditions of Service" to administer the

conditions under which data is accessed.

f. Please describe the skills, training, experiences of SME staff that will support decision making on

a party's application to access SME data.

EB-2018-0316 Electricity Distributors Association Interrogatories to the SME

Page **5** of **8** Filed: February 25, 2019

Issue 4

EDA Interrogatory #10

Reference: N/A

Question: Please provide a detailed list of the SME's costs:

a. incurred to date

b. projected to be incurred.

Please describe the nature of each cost, the associated activity, the SME's funding source and the calculated net revenue.

Issue 4

EDA Interrogatory #11

Reference: Exhibit B/Tab 6/Schedule 1/p.2, line 19-27

Question:

a. Please provide the SME's business case in support of Third-Party Access.

b. Please provide a summary of the scenarios analyzed and the working papers supporting the risk assessment component of the Business Case.

Issue 4

EDA Interrogatory #12

Reference: Exhibit B/Tab 6/Schedule 1/p.2, line 19-27

Question:

c. Please provide the SME's business case in support of Third-Party Access.

d. Please provide a summary of the scenarios analyzed and the working papers supporting the risk assessment component of the Business Case.

EB-2018-0316 **Electricity Distributors**

Association

Interrogatories to the SME Page 6 of 8

Filed: February 25, 2019

Issue 5

EDA Interrogatory #13

Reference: Exhibit B/Tab 4/Schedule 1/p. 1, lines 14-16

Question: Please compare and contrast the SME's proposal to use a new variance account to track the

net revenues to the alternative of treating the revenues generated by selling data to 3rd parties as a

Revenue Offsets. Please state all supporting facts and assumptions.

Issue 5

EDA Interrogatory #14

Reference: Exhibit B/Tab 4/Schedule 1/p. 2, lines 6 -10

Preamble: Please assume that the rebate threshold is exceeded and the LDCs Smart Metered customer

is to be rebated funds.

Question:

a. Please describe the SME's actions if a debit balance whose absolute value exceeds the threshold

is incurred.

b. Please quantify the costs that will be incurred by LDC's; please state all supporting facts and

assumptions and describe how the SME obtained this information.

Issue 8

EDA Interrogatory #15

Reference: Exhibit B/ Tab 5/ Schedule 1, p. 1 line 7

Question: Please provide the results of the SME's consultations on sharing data and how the SME

incorporated the input from this consultation in their final design.

EB-2018-0316 **Electricity Distributors**

Association Interrogatories to the SME

Page **7** of **8**

Filed: February 25, 2019

Issue 8

EDA Interrogatory #16

Reference: Exhibit B/Tab 2/Schedule 1/p. 1/lines 5-14

Preamble: The SME proposes to offer 4 product offerings: "Public", "Standard", "Custom", "Enhanced

Custom".

Question:

a. Please identify and describe the stakeholder engagement and input associated with the produce

proposal and how each product will benefit the rate payer.

b. Please quantify the costs expected to be incurred to provide Public offerings and describe how

these costs are to be recovered.

c. Please describe how the proposed Custom offerings will be costed.

d. Please assume that "A" requests a Custom offering and that "B" requests the same Custom

offering in a subsequent period. Please describe how the costs to satisfy B's request will be

quantified and how the price will be quantified; please state all supporting facts and

assumptions.

e. Please describe whether a third party could be capable of realizing the additional value of an

Enhanced Custom offering.

Issue 9

EDA Interrogatory #17

Reference: Exhibit B/Tab 2/Schedule 1/p. 2, lines p. 19-22.

Question:

a. Please describe the steps the SME would take if a product:

a) breaks even

b) is profitable

c) is unprofitable.

Please state all assumptions and provide all supporting facts.

b. Please provide the SME's analysis of the risk of

a) the recoverability of costs

EB-2018-0316 **Electricity Distributors**

Association Interrogatories to the SME

Page 8 of 8

Filed: February 25, 2019

b) breaking even

c) not achieving a level of profitability that appropriately compensates the provider of capital

for the risks incurred.

Issue 10

EDA Interrogatory #18

Reference: Exhibit B/Tab 1/Schedule 1/p. 1, line 12

<u>Question:</u> For each type of data types please describe the steps taken to protect personal information.

What indemnification exists if a privacy breach were to occur? Please outline the proposed steps to

mitigate a privacy breach and if re-identification does occur, what steps would be taken to deal with this

event. Please clarify what party would be held liable.

Issue 10

EDA Interrogatory #19

Reference: Exhibit B/Tab 1/Schedule 1/p.1, line 13

Question: Please describe and discuss the steps that the SME or the IESO would take if a 3rd party

attempted to de-identify SME data.

Issue 10

EDA Interrogatory #20

Reference: Exhibit B/Tab 1/Schedule 1/p. 1, line 11-18

Question:

c. Please provide the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario's Guidelines.

d. Please describe and discuss the SME's expertise in and ability to correctly and appropriately

apply these guidelines.