

BY EMAIL and RESS

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March 29, 2019 Our File No. 20190015

Ontario Energy Board 2300 Yonge Street 27th Floor Toronto, Ontario M4P 1E4

Attn: Kirsten Walli, Board Secretary

Dear Ms. Walli:

Re: EB-2019-0015 - North Bay/Espanola MAADs

We are counsel for the School Energy Coalition. We enclose SEC's Notice of Intervention in the above matter, and ask that the Board accept it despite being filed late. This matter only came to SEC's attention this week, and it took two days to review the Application and confirm the interest of schools in order to intervene. We believe no other party is prejudiced by our late filing.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Yours very truly,

JAY SHEPHERD P. C.

Jay Shepherd

cc: Wayne McNally, SEC (email)

Interested Parties

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998, S.O. 1998, c.15 (Schedule. B);

AND IN THE MATTER OF an Application filed by North Bay (Espanola) Acquisition Corp. ("**NBEAI**") pursuant to the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* for:

Leave to acquire 100% of the issued and outstanding common shares of Espanola Regional Hydro Holdings Corporation ("**ERHHC**") and 100% of the special shares of Espanola Regional Hydro Distribution Corporation ("**ERHDC**") from The Corporation of the Town of Espanola and The Corporation of the Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers, pursuant to section 86(2)(b) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998;

Leave to amalgamate NBEAI, ERHHC and ERHDC to create a new company operating under the name Espanola Regional Hydro Distribution Corporation, made pursuant to section 86(1)(c) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*; and

Approval of the proposed rate making framework under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*; and

A determination to not review the accompanying notice of proposal under section 82 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, or in the alternative, approving the proposal on the basis that it will not adversely affect the development and maintenance of a competitive market and it is not inconsistent with the objectives of the Board or the purposes of the *Electricity Act, 1998*.

NOTICE OF INTERVENTION

OF THE

SCHOOL ENERGY COALITION

- 1. The School Energy Coalition ("SEC") applies for intervenor status in this proceeding.
- 1. SEC is a frequent intervenor in Board proceedings. Our current Annual Filing can be found on the Board's website, here:
 - http://www.rds.oeb.ca/HPECMWebDrawer/Record/589545/File/document
- 2. The School Energy Coalition intends to apply for recovery of its costs reasonably incurred in the course of its intervention in this matter. SEC has participated in many past natural gas and electricity proceedings in Ontario, including consultations, rate cases, and other processes and hearings, and has been found eligible to be paid its reasonably incurred costs in all of those proceedings.

Issues to be Addressed

- 3. SEC's intended participation will focus on the following issues:
 - a. The impact of the proposed transactions on the ratepayers of both utilities, in both the short and long term, including application of the "no harm" test, and whether the proposed rates going forward are just and reasonable;
 - b. The consistency of the proposed transactions, including proposed conditions and related activities, with the Board's policies and guidelines, including recent decisions of the Board in other cases;
 - c. The impact of the proposed multi-stage approval and rate-making process on customers;
 - d. If the application is granted, in full or in part, what conditions should the Board approve; and
 - e. Generally to represent the interests of school boards and their students in this process.

The Intervenor's Intended Participation

4. SEC intends to participate in any pre-hearing procedures, including interrogatories or technical conferences, and settlement conferences. SEC also intends to participate in any oral hearing of this matter, and in written or oral submissions, as well as any other parts of the process that the Board should order.

Nature of Hearing Requested

5. Until interrogatories have been answered, we believe it is premature to assess whether a written or an oral hearing is more appropriate in this proceeding.

Counsel/Representative

- 6. SEC requests that a copy of all documents filed with the Board by each party to this proceeding be served on the intervenor, and on the intervenor's counsel, as follows:
 - a. School Energy Coalition: (electronic copies only)

ONTARIO EDUCATION SERVICES CORPORATION

c/o Ontario Public School Boards Association 439 University Avenue, 18th Floor Toronto, ON M5G 1Y8

Attn: Wayne McNally, SEC Coordinator

Phone: 416 340-2540 Fax: 416 340-7571

Email: wmcnally@opsba.org

b. SEC's counsel: (both electronic and paper copies)

SHEPHERD RUBENSTEIN PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

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Attn: Jay Shepherd

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Email: jay@shepherdrubenstein.com

with an electronic copy to:

Attn: Mark Rubenstein Phone: 647-483-0113

Email: mark@shepherdrubenstein.com

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the School Energy Coalition this March 29, 2019.

Jay Shepherd Counsel for the School Energy Coalition