



**PUC Distribution Inc.
500 Second Line EAST, P.O. Box 9000
SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO, P6A 4K1**

June 28, 2019

Delivered by Courier, Email & RESS

Ms. Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street Suite 2701
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

**Re: OEB File No. EB-2018-0219
PUC Distribution Inc. ("Applicant") Application for 2019 ICM/IRM Rates
Amendment to the ICM Application – The Sault Smart Grid project**

Following the Technical Conference held on June 19 and 20, 2019, the Applicant has determined that it will amend the Application for ICM relief for the proposed Sault Smart Grid project. The Applicant will exercise its best efforts to complete and file the amendment by the end of September 2019.

Accounting for a reasonable period for discovery on the amendment, the Applicant believes that this will delay the timing of the Sault Smart Grid project such that completing in-service work during the 2019 test year will no longer be feasible. For this reason, the Applicant will propose a new test year as part of its amendment and the Board can consider the Partial Decision and Order issued on June 20, 2019 in relation to the 2019 IRM portion of the Application final.

The Applicant believes that an amendment is the best approach to address the evolving context of the project, as it will preserve the existing evidentiary record and comprehensive discovery that has been completed on the Sault Smart Grid project to-date.

Finally, the Applicant will include responses to all outstanding Technical Conference undertakings as part of its amendment.

Sincerely,

Andrew Belsito, CPA, CMA
Rates and Regulatory Affairs Officer
PUC Distribution Inc.
Sault Ste. Marie Ont.
Email: Andrew.Belsito@ssmpuc.com
Phone: 705-759-3009
