

EB-2019-0180

Energy+ Inc.

Motion to Review and Vary the Ontario Energy Board's Decision and Order dated June 13, 2019 re Energy+ Inc.'s 2019 Distribution Rate Application (EB-2018-0028)

NOTICE OF HEARING AND PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 1 August 16, 2019

Background

On July 2, 2019, Energy+ Inc. (Energy+) filed a notice of motion to review and vary the June 13, 2019 Decision and Order of the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) in the EB-2018-0028 proceeding on Energy+'s application for electricity distribution rates effective January 1, 2019 (the Decision). Energy+ requested that the OEB review and vary its Decision with respect to its conclusions regarding two separate issues: the Advanced Capital Module (ACM) and the impact of Bill C-97.

The OEB has assigned this motion file number EB-2019-0180.

Threshold Question

Under Rule 43.01 of the OEB's *Rules of Practice and Procedure*, the OEB may determine, with or without a hearing, a threshold question of whether the matter should be reviewed before conducting any review on the merits. The OEB has determined that it will hear submissions on the threshold question of whether the matter should be reviewed. If the OEB determines that the threshold has been met it will then consider the merits of the Motion. The OEB is seeking submissions on both the threshold question and the merits of the motion from parties who participated in EB-2018-0028.

Bill C-97

In light of the federal government's intention to change the accelerated tax deductions (CCA) program, the OEB directed Energy+ to establish a new sub-account within Account 1592 - PILs and Tax Variances to specifically record the impact of changes in CCA rules. In its notice of motion, Energy+ stated that the OEB did not ask the parties, nor did it hear submissions from the parties, which breached the rules of justice and fairness in its consideration and application of the Bill C-97 impact.

On June 21, 2019, Bill C-97, the *Budget Implementation Act, 2019, No. 1*, was given Royal Assent. The OEB issued a letter on July 25, 2019 directing all electricity distributors, including Energy+, to record the full revenue requirement impact of changes in CCA rules in a sub-account of Account 1592.

The OEB notes that under the Accounting Procedures Handbook, electricity distributors are required to record the impact of any differences that result from a legislative or regulatory change to the tax rates or rules. Given the accounting direction regarding Bill C-97, the OEB has determined that it will dismiss the Bill C-97 portion of the motion to review at the threshold stage without a hearing pursuant to Rule 43.

The Board will hear both the threshold question and the merits of the motion with respect to the ACM issue in a single round of submissions.

The Process for Hearing this Motion

This motion will be heard by a differently constituted panel than the one that issued the Decision.

Every party to the EB-2018-0028 proceeding is deemed to be a party to this motion. Any party that was determined to be eligible for costs in the EB-2018-0028 proceeding will be eligible for costs in this motion.

Energy+ has proposed that the motion be heard in writing. The OEB will receive written submissions from the parties in accordance with the schedule set out below. After reviewing the submissions, the OEB may provide further procedural directions.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

- 1. Energy+ may file any further written submissions and any documentation in support of the threshold question and the merits of the motion with respect to the ACM issue, and serve them on all parties, by **August 29, 2019**.
- Intervenors and OEB staff shall file any written submissions and any documentation on both the threshold question and the merits of the motion with respect to the ACM issue, and serve them on all parties, by September 12, 2019.
- 3. Energy+ may file a reply submission by **September 24, 2019.**

All filings to the OEB must quote the file number, EB-2019-0180, be made in searchable/ unrestricted PDF format electronically through the OEB's web portal at <u>https://www.pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/</u>. 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 <u>http://www.oeb.ca/Industry</u>. 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 flash drive 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, Shuo Zhang at <u>Shuo.Zhang@oeb.ca</u> and OEB Counsel, Ljuba Djurdjevic at <u>Ljuba.Djurdjevic@oeb.ca</u>.

ADDRESS

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

E-mail: <u>boardsec@oeb.ca</u> Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (Toll free) Fax: 416-440-7656

DATED at Toronto, August 16, 2019

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary Schedule A Notice of Hearing & Procedural Order No. 1 List of Applicant and Parties EB-2019-0180 Dated: August 16, 2019

APPLICANT & LIST INTERVENORS

August 16, 2019

APPLICANT

Rep. and Address for Service

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