

EB-2019-0018

Alectra Utilities Corporation

Application for electricity distribution rates and other charges effective January 1, 2020

PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 2 August 20, 2019

Alectra Utilities Corporation (Alectra Utilities) filed an incentive rate-setting mechanism (IRM) application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on May 28, 2019 under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, *1998*, S.O. 1998, c. 15, (Schedule B) seeking approval for changes to its electricity distribution rates to be effective January 1, 2020.

In Procedural Order No. 1, dated July 9, 2019, the OEB set out a timetable for three streams of the application, namely the IRM, M-factor and capitalization policy.

Confidentiality

Alectra Utilities filed its interrogatories responses on the IRM elements of the application on August 16, 2019. By a letter filed on August 16, 2019 and pursuant to OEB's *Rules of Practice and Procedure* (OEB Rules) and the OEB's *Practice Direction on Confidential Filings* (Practice Direction), Alectra Utilities requested confidential treatment for the following portions of Alectra Utilities' Conservation First Framework Wind Down Cost Estimate, which is provided in Attachment 2 to its response to interrogatory G-Staff-5 (Wind Down Cost Estimate):

- 1. Contractors' Unit Pricing Information (pages 3, 4 and 6 of the Wind Down Cost Estimate)
- 2. Personal Information (pages 4, 5 and 7 of the Wind Down Cost Estimate)

In accordance with the OEB's Practice Direction, Alectra Utilities provided reasons for the confidentiality request. Alectra Utilities noted that its contractors' unit pricing information is commercially sensitive and its disclosure can impact the competitive position of its contractors. Alectra Utilities also explained why the redacted termination dates information constitutes personal information that requires confidential treatment. Alectra Utilities further noted that the "personal information shall not be disclosed to any party in the proceeding, including a person from whom the OEB has accepted a Declaration and Undertaking."¹

At this time, provision will be made for the filing of submissions and applicant's reply submission on Alectra Utilities' request for confidentiality over parts of its interrogatory responses. Counsel and consultants for intervenors who have already filed an executed <u>Declaration and Undertaking</u> as part of this proceeding may request from Alectra Utilities' unredacted copies of the proposed confidential interrogatory information, other than the personal information, in order to make submissions on the confidentiality request.

Subsequent to any submissions and the reply submission received pursuant to this Procedural Order, the OEB intends to make its findings with respect to Alectra Utilities' request for confidentiality. The information that Alectra Utilities requested confidentiality for is designated as confidential in the interim.

It is necessary to make provision for the following matters related to this proceeding. The OEB will issue further procedural orders from time to time.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

- OEB staff and intervenors shall file any written submissions on Alectra Utilities' confidentiality request with the OEB and serve them on all parties by August 26, 2019. Submissions should comply with the Practice Direction, specifically sections 5.1.6 and 5.1.7.
- Alectra Utilities shall file any written reply submission pursuant to section 5.1.8 of the Practice Direction with the OEB and serve it on all parties by August 29, 2019.

All filings to the OEB must quote the file number, EB-2019-0018, be made in searchable / unrestricted PDF format electronically through the OEB's web portal at https://pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/. 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

¹ A letter from Alectra Utilities - Request for Confidential Treatment of Interrogatory Responses, EB-2019-0018, August 16, 2019, page 2

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 USB memory stick 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 Registrar 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, Katherine Wang at <u>katherine.wang@oeb.ca</u> and OEB Counsel, Lawren Murray at <u>lawren.murray@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 20, 2019

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary