

# **DECISION AND RATE ORDER**

# EB-2019-0028

# **COOPERATIVE HYDRO EMBRUN INC.**

Application for rates and other charges to be effective January 1, 2020

By Delegation, Before: Theodore Antonopoulos

December 12, 2019

## **1 INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY**

Through this Decision and Rate Order, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) approves the incentive rate-setting mechanism (IRM) application filed by Cooperative Hydro Embrun Inc. (Cooperative Hydro Embrun) for new rates effective January 1, 2020.

Cooperative Hydro Embrun serves approximately 2,338 mostly residential and commercial electricity customers in the Town of Embrun. The company is seeking the OEB's approval for the rates it charges to distribute electricity to its customers, as is required of licensed and rate-regulated distributors in Ontario.

A distributor may choose one of three rate-setting methodologies approved by the OEB. Each of these is explained in the <u>Handbook for Utility Rate Applications</u>.

Cooperative Hydro Embrun's application is based on a Price Cap Incentive Rate-setting option (Price Cap IR), with a five-year term. The Price Cap IR option involves the setting of rates through a cost of service application in the first year. Mechanistic price cap adjustments, based on inflation and the OEB's assessment of the distributor's efficiency, are typically then approved through IRM applications in each of the ensuing four (adjustment) years.

As a result of the OEB's findings in this Decision, there will be a monthly total bill increase before taxes of \$1.96 for a residential customer consuming 750 kWh, effective January 1, 2020.

Cooperative Hydro Embrun has also applied to change the composition of its distribution service rates. Residential distribution service rates have historically included a fixed monthly charge and a variable usage charge. In 2015, the OEB issued a policy to transition these rates to a fully fixed structure over a four-year period beginning in 2016.<sup>1</sup> Cooperative Hydro Embrun was granted approval for an additional two years to transition these rates to a fully fixed structure in order to mitigate the customer bill impact of the transition.<sup>2</sup> This is the sixth and final year of Cooperative Hydro Embrun's transition to fully fixed rates for residential customers. There is no longer a variable usage rate for this class of customer. This policy change does not affect the total revenue that distributors collect from residential customers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> OEB Policy – "A New Distribution Rate Design for Residential Electricity Customers." EB-2012-0410, April 2, 2015.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> EB-2017-0035, Decision and Rate Order, January 25, 2018

## 2 THE PROCESS

This Decision is being issued by delegated authority, without a hearing, under section 6 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (the OEB Act).

The OEB follows a standardized and streamlined process for hearing IRM applications filed under Price Cap IR. In each adjustment year of a Price Cap IR term, the OEB prepares a Rate Generator Model that includes, as a placeholder, information from the distributor's past proceedings and annual reporting requirements.<sup>3</sup> A distributor will then review and complete the Rate Generator Model, and include it with its application.

Cooperative Hydro Embrun filed its application on August 12, 2019 under section 78 of the OEB Act and in accordance with Chapter 3 of the OEB's *Filing Requirements for Incentive Rate-Setting Applications* (Filing Requirements) *and Addendum to Filing Requirements for Electricity Distribution Rate Applications*.

The application was supported by pre-filed written evidence and a completed Rate Generator Model. During the course of the proceeding, the applicant responded to OEB staff questions through emails and phone calls and, where required, updated and clarified the evidence.

# **3 ORGANIZATION OF THE DECISION**

In this Decision, the OEB addresses the following issues, and provides reasons for approving or denying Cooperative Hydro Embrun's proposals relating to each of them:

- Price Cap Adjustment
- Shared Tax Adjustments
- Retail Transmission Service Rates
- Group 1 Deferral and Variance Accounts
- Lost Revenue Adjustment Mechanism Variance Account Balance
- Residential Rate Design

In the final section, the OEB addresses the steps to implement the final rates that flow from this Decision.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Rate Generator Model is a Microsoft Excel workbook that is used to update base rates, retail transmission service rates and, if applicable, shared tax saving adjustments. It also calculates rate riders for the disposition of deferral and variance account balances. During the course of an IRM proceeding, the Rate Generator Model may be updated in order to make any necessary corrections, or to incorporate new rate-setting parameters as they become available.

This Decision does not address rates and charges approved by the OEB in previous proceedings, which are not part of the scope of an IRM proceeding (such as specific service charges<sup>4</sup> and loss factors). No further approvals are required to continue to include these items on a distributor's Tariff of Rates and Charges.

## 4 PRICE CAP ADJUSTMENT

Cooperative Hydro Embrun seeks to increase its rates, effective January 1, 2020, based on a mechanistic rate adjustment using the OEB-approved *inflation minus X-factor* formula applicable to Price Cap IR applications.

The components of the Price Cap IR adjustment formula applicable to Cooperative Hydro Embrun are set out in Table 4.1, below. Inserting these components into the formula results in a 2.00% increase to Cooperative Hydro Embrun's rates: 2.00% = 2.00% - (0.00% + 0.00%).

Components		Amount
Inflation Factor <sup>5</sup>		2.00%
X-Factor	Productivity <sup>6</sup>	0.00%
	Stretch (0.00% – 0.60%) <sup>7</sup>	0.00%

### Table 4.1: Price Cap IR Adjustment Formula

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Specific service charges have been amended by the OEB through: the Report of the OEB – "Wireline Pole Attachment Charges", EB-2015-0304, Issued March 22, 2018; and, the Decision and Order on Energy Retail Service Charges EB-2015-0304, Issued on February 14, 2019. Certain Service Charges are subject to annual inflationary adjustments to be determined by the OEB through a generic order. The Decision and Order EB-2019-0280 issued November 28, 2019 for energy retailer service charges, and the cover letter dated November 28, 2019 "Inflation Adjustment for Energy Retailer Service Charges (EB-2019-0280) and Wireline Pole Attachment Charge (EB-2015-0304) for Electricity Distributors", established the adjustments effective January 1, 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> For the 2020 Inflation Factor, see Ontario Energy Board 2020 Electricity Distribution Rate applications webpage - October 31, 2019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Report of the OEB – "Rate Setting Parameters and Benchmarking under the Renewed Regulatory Framework for Ontario's Electricity Distributors" EB-2010-0379, Issued November 21, 2013, corrected December 4, 2013.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The stretch factor groupings are based on the Report to the Ontario Energy Board – "Empirical Research in Support of Incentive Rate-Setting: 2018 Benchmarking Update", prepared by Pacific Economics Group LLC., August 15, 2019.

The inflation factor of 2.00% applies to all Price Cap IR applications for the 2020 rate year.

The X-factor is the sum of the productivity factor and the stretch factor. It is a productivity offset that will vary among different groupings of distributors. Subtracting the X-factor from inflation ensures that rates decline in real, constant-dollar terms, providing distributors with a tangible incentive to improve efficiency or else experience declining net income.

The productivity component of the X-factor is based on industry conditions over a historical study period and applies to all Price Cap IR and Annual IR Index applications for the 2020 rate year.

The stretch factor component of the X-factor is distributor specific. The OEB has established five stretch factor groupings, each within a range from 0.00% to 0.60%. The stretch factor assigned to any particular distributor is based on the distributor's total cost performance as benchmarked against other distributors in Ontario. The most efficient distributor would be assigned the lowest stretch factor of 0.00%. Conversely, a higher stretch factor would be applied to a less efficient distributor (in accordance with its cost performance relative to expected levels) to reflect the incremental productivity gains that the distributor is expected to achieve. The stretch factor assigned to Cooperative Hydro Embrun is 0.00%.

### Findings

The OEB finds that Cooperative Hydro Embrun's request for a 2.00% rate adjustment is in accordance with the annually updated parameters set by the OEB. The adjustment is approved, and Cooperative Hydro Embrun's new rates shall be effective January 1, 2020.

The adjustment applies to distribution rates (fixed and variable) uniformly across all customer classes.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Price Cap IR and Annual IR Index adjustments do not apply to the following rates and charges: rate riders, rate adders, low voltage service charges, retail transmission service rates, wholesale market service rate, smart metering entity charge, rural or remote electricity rate protection charge, standard supply service – administrative charge, transformation and primary metering allowances, loss factors, specific service charges, microFIT charge, and retail service charges.

## 5 SHARED TAX ADJUSTMENTS

In any adjustment year of a Price Cap IR term, a change in legislation may result in a change to the amount of taxes payable by a distributor. With regard to IRM applications, the OEB has long held that the impact of such legislated tax changes be shared 50/50 between shareholders and ratepayers. The shared tax change amount, whether in the form of a credit or a debit, will be assigned to customer rate classes in the same proportions as the OEB-approved distribution revenue by rate class from the distributor's last cost of service proceeding.

On July 25, 2019, the OEB issued a letter<sup>9</sup> providing accounting guidance with respect to recent changes in capital cost allowance (CCA) rules. The guidance provides that impacts from changes in CCA rules will not be assessed in IRM applications, and that any request for disposition of amounts related to CCA changes is to be deferred to the distributor's next cost-base rate application. A distributor's request for disposition of shared tax adjustment amounts in an IRM application should, therefore, be comprised only of impacts for tax changes unrelated to CCA (such as changes in corporate income tax rates).

The application identifies a total tax decrease of \$469, resulting in a shared credit amount of \$235 to be refunded to ratepayers.

This allocated tax sharing amount does not produce a rate rider in one or more rate classes. In such situations, where the Rate Generator Model does not compute rate riders, distributors typically are required to transfer the entire OEB-approved tax sharing amount into the Disposition and Recovery of Regulatory Balances Control Account (Account 1595) for disposition at a later date.

### Findings

The OEB approves the tax refund of \$235.

The allocated tax sharing credit amount of \$235 does not produce a rate rider in one or more rate classes. The OEB therefore directs Cooperative Hydro Embrun to record the OEB-approved tax sharing credit amount of \$235 into Account 1595 "Sub-account Principal Balances Approved for Disposition in 2020", by March 31, 2020, for disposition at a later date.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> OEB Accounting Direction Regarding Bill C-97 and Other Changes in Regulatory or Legislated Tax Rules for Capital Cost Allowance, July 25, 2019.

## 6 RETAIL TRANSMISSION SERVICE RATES

Distributors charge retail transmission service rates (RTSRs) to their customers in order to recover the amounts they pay to a transmitter, a host distributor, or both, for transmission services. All transmitters charge Uniform Transmission Rates (UTRs) to distributors connected to the transmission system. Host distributors charge host-RTSRs to distributors embedded within the host's distribution system. Each of these rates are OEB-approved.

Cooperative Hydro Embrun is fully embedded within Hydro One Networks Inc.'s distribution system and is requesting approval to adjust the RTSRs that it charges its customers to reflect the currently approved rates that it pays for transmission services included in Table 6.1.

Sub-Transmission Host RTSRs (2019)	per kW
Network Service Rate	\$3.29
Connection Service Rates	
Line Connection Service Rate	\$0.79
Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$1.98

Table 6.1: Hydro	One Networks Inc	. Sub-Transmission Host-RTSRs <sup>10</sup>
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### Findings

Cooperative Hydro Embrun's proposed adjustment to its RTSRs is approved. The RTSRs were adjusted based on the current host-RTSRs.

The differences resulting from the approval of new 2020 UTRs will be captured in Accounts RSVA – Retail Transmission Network Charge 1584 and Retail Transmission Connection Charge 1586.

## 7 GROUP 1 DEFERRAL AND VARIANCE ACCOUNTS

In each year of an IRM term, the OEB will review a distributor's Group 1 deferral and variance accounts in order to determine whether their total balance should be

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> EB-2017-0049, Decision and Order, June 11, 2019.

disposed.<sup>11</sup> OEB policy requires that Group 1 accounts be disposed if they exceed (as a debit or credit) a pre-set disposition threshold of \$0.001 per kWh, unless a distributor justifies why balances should not be disposed.<sup>12</sup> If the balance does not exceed the threshold, a distributor may elect to request disposition.

The revised 2018 actual year-end total balance for Cooperative Hydro Embrun's Group 1 accounts including interest projected to December 31, 2019 is a credit of \$78,695. This amount represents a total credit claim of \$0.0028 per kWh, which exceeds the disposition threshold, and the utility has requested disposition.

### a) Global Adjustment Variance Account

One of the components of the commodity costs billed by the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO), which is included in Group 1 accounts, is the Global Adjustment (GA).<sup>13</sup>

Different customer groups pay the GA in different ways:

- For Regulated Price Plan (RPP) customers, the GA is incorporated into the standard commodity rates customers pay. Therefore, there is no separate variance account for the GA.
- "Class A" customers are allocated GA costs based on the percentage their demand contributes to the top five Ontario system peaks. As distributors settle with Class A customers based on actual GA costs, there is no resulting variance.
- "Class B" non-RPP customers are billed GA based on the electricity they consume in a month at the IESO published GA price. Distributors track any difference between the billed amounts and actual costs for these customers in the GA Variance Account for disposal, once audited.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Group 1 accounts track the differences between the costs that a distributor is billed for certain IESO and host distributor services (including the cost of power) and the associated revenues that the distributor receives from its customers for these services. The total net difference between these costs and revenues is disposed to customers through a temporary charge or credit known as a rate rider. <sup>12</sup> Report of the OEB – "Electricity Distributors' Deferral and Variance Account Review Initiative (EDDVAR)." EB-2008-0046, July 31, 2009.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> The GA is established monthly by the IESO to reflect the difference between the wholesale market price for electricity and regulated rates for:

Ontario Power Generation's nuclear and hydroelectric generating stations

<sup>•</sup> payments for building or refurbishing infrastructure such as gas-fired and renewable facilities and other nuclear

<sup>•</sup> contracted rates paid to a number of generators across the province

<sup>•</sup> the cost of delivering conservation programs.

Cooperative Hydro Embrun proposes the refund of its GA variance account balance of \$9,826 as at December 31, 2018, including interest to December 31, 2019, in accordance with the following table.

Proposed Amounts	Proposed Method for Refund
\$9,826 refunded to customers who were Class B for the entire period from January 2018 to December 2018	per kWh rate rider

### Table 7.1: Refund of GA Variance

### b) Capacity Based Recovery Class B Sub-account

The balance of the Group 1 accounts includes the Capacity Based Recovery (CBR) sub-account for Class B customers of \$84, relating to the IESO's wholesale energy market for the CBR program. Cooperative Hydro Embrun had no Class A customers during the period from January 2018 to December 2018 so it applied to have the balance of this account disposed along with Account 1580 - Wholesale Market Service Charge through the general Deferral and Variance Account rate rider.

### c) Group 1 Accounts

The Group 1 accounts being sought for disposition (excluding global adjustment) include the following flow through variance accounts: Low Voltage Charges, Smart Meter Entity Charges, Wholesale Market Service Charges, Retail Transmission Service Charges and Commodity Power Charges. These Group 1 accounts have a total credit balance of \$68,869, which results in a refund to customers. This balance combined with the balance for the global adjustment account results in the total credit balance for Group 1 accounts of \$78,695.

The balances proposed for disposition reconcile with the amounts reported as part of the OEB's *Electricity Reporting and Record-Keeping Requirements*.<sup>14</sup> Cooperative Hydro Embrun further submits that its proposal for a one-year disposition period is in accordance with the OEB's policy.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Electricity Reporting and Record Keeping Requirements, Version dated May 3, 2016.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Report of the OEB – "Electricity Distributors' Deferral and Variance Account Review Initiative (EDDVAR)." EB-2008-0046, July 31, 2009.

In 2018, the OEB suspended its approvals of Group 1 rate riders on a final basis pending the development of further accounting guidance on commodity pass-through variance accounts. The OEB issued accounting guidance on the commodity accounts on February 21, 2019. In this letter, the OEB indicated that it expects distributors to consider the accounting guidance in the context of historical balances that have not yet been disposed on a final basis. Distributors are expected to make any adjustments needed prior to filing for final disposition.

In response to a staff question<sup>16</sup> Cooperative Hydro Embrun indicated that it has implemented the new OEB accounting guidance for Accounts 1588 and 1589 effective January 1, 2019.

The OEB observes that Cooperative Hydro Embrun's Account 1588 balance is higher than would be expected given the recent accounting guidance that was issued by the OEB. For example, the OEB notes that the balance in Account 1588 should reflect the difference between the line losses built into rates and the actual line losses experienced by the distributor. Cooperative Hydro Embrun presents a credit balance of \$63,579 in this account, which is unusually high for a utility of its size.

Cooperative Hydro Embrun did not report an amount in its 2018 Trial Balance<sup>17</sup> for Account 4707 GA cost and recorded all power and GA costs in the commodity power Account 4705, which showed a balance of \$2,544,503 in its OEB Trial Balance. Using the threshold for assessing the reasonability for GA of  $1\%^{18}$ , and applying it to the power account, the balance in Account 1588 – 2.5 % of the total of the commodity and the GA costs – is materially higher than 1% for that account.

The OEB notes that OEB staff will be available to the utility in order to provide feedback to the applicant before Cooperative Hydro Embrun files its next rate application. Cooperative Hydro Embrun is encouraged to reach out to OEB staff for assistance when performing the review of its accounting and settlement processes, as per the OEB Findings below.

### Findings

The OEB finds that the balance in Cooperative Hydro Embrun's Group 1 accounts should not be disposed at this time. The OEB will consider allowing the disposition after Cooperative Hydro Embrun has performed a detailed internal review of its accounting and settlement processes and can provide sufficient evidence that it is following the APH and other OEB accounting guidance with respect to its commodity pass through

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Cooperative Hydro Embrun's September 30, 2019 response to OEB staff Question 14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> RRR 2.1.7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Chapter 3 Filing Requirements for 2020 – Section 3.2.5.2, GA Analysis Workform.

accounts. The results of the internal review should be filed in Cooperative Hydro Embrun's next rate proceeding.

With respect to the disposition of the 2017 Group 1 account balances which had been previously approved on an interim basis, the OEB will also not approve final disposition of these balances until the requirements discussed in the previous paragraph have been met.

## 8 LOST REVENUE ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM VARIANCE ACCOUNT BALANCE

In recent years, distributors have delivered conservation and demand management (CDM) programs to their customers through the Conservation First Framework (CFF), which began on January 1, 2015. These programs result in reduced total energy consumption. To address the impact of the reduced consumption, the OEB established a Lost Revenue Adjustment Mechanism Variance Account (LRAMVA) to capture a distributor's revenue implications resulting from differences between actual savings and forecast conservation savings included in the last OEB-approved load forecast.<sup>19</sup> These differences are recorded by distributors at the rate class level.

On March 20, 2019, the CFF was revoked.<sup>20</sup> However, the OEB indicated that electricity distributors will continue to have access to a lost revenue adjustment mechanism for conservation program activities undertaken under the CFF.<sup>21</sup>

A distributor may apply for the disposition of the balance in the LRAMVA on an annual basis, as part of its IRM application, if the balance is deemed significant by the distributor.

Cooperative Hydro Embrun applied to dispose its LRAMVA debit balance. The balance is \$8,592 (as revised throughout the course of this proceeding) and consists of lost revenues in 2017 and 2018 from CDM programs delivered during the period from 2015 to 2018 and carrying charges. The actual conservation savings claimed by Cooperative Hydro Embrun were determined by the IESO.<sup>22</sup> For CDM programs delivered prior to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Guidelines for Electricity Distributor Conservation and Demand Management, EB-2012-0003, April 26, 2012; and Requirement Guidelines for Electricity Distributors Conservation and Demand Management, EB-2014-0278, December 19, 2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> On March 20, 2019 the Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines issued separate Directives to the OEB and the IESO.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Ontario Energy Board letter dated June 20, 2019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> For CDM programs delivered from 2015 to 2017, the IESO provided distributors with a Final Results Report that summarized all savings results. For 2018, distributors accessed the Participant and Cost Reports and detailed project level data from the IESO to support LRAMVA applications.

2018, the IESO provided LDCs with a Final Results Report that summarized all annual CDM results. For CDM programs delivered in 2018, the IESO made monthly Participation and Cost Reports and detailed project level data available to support LRAMVA applications. Actual conservation savings in 2017 and 2018 were compared against Cooperative Hydro Embrun's forecasted conservation savings of 388,472 kWh and 1,405,902 kWh, respectively, included in each of the 2014 and 2018 load forecasts, which was set out in Cooperative Hydro Embrun's 2014 and 2018 cost of service proceedings.<sup>23 24</sup>

### Findings

The OEB finds that Cooperative Hydro Embrun's LRAMVA balance has been calculated in accordance with the OEB's CDM-related guidelines and updated LRAMVA policy. The OEB approves the disposition of Cooperative Hydro Embrun's LRAMVA debit balance of \$8,592, as set out in Table 8.1 below.

Table 8.1 LRAMVA Bal	ance for Disposition
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Account Name	Account Number	Actual CDM Savings (\$) A	Forecasted CDM Savings (\$) B	Carrying Charges (\$) C	Total Claim (\$) D=(A-B)+C
LRAMVA	1568	\$30,257	\$22,093	\$428	\$8,592

## 9 RESIDENTIAL RATE DESIGN

Some residential distribution rates currently include a fixed monthly charge and a variable usage charge. The OEB's residential rate design policy stipulates that distributors will transition residential customers to a fully fixed monthly distribution service charge over a four-year period, beginning in 2016.<sup>25</sup> Distributors, such as Cooperative Hydro Embrun, who are in a transition period that is greater than four years, are required to continue with this transition until the monthly service charge is fully fixed.

The OEB expects an applicant to apply two tests to evaluate whether mitigation of bill impacts for customers is required during the transition period. Mitigation usually takes the form of a lengthening of the transition period. The first test is to calculate the change in the monthly fixed charge, and to consider mitigation if it exceeds \$4. The second is to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> EB-2013-0122, Decision and Order, December 23, 2013.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> EB-2017-0035, Decision and Order, January 25, 2018.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> As outlined in the Policy cited at footnote 1 above.

calculate the total bill impact of the proposals in the application for low volume residential customers (defined as those residential RPP customers whose consumption is at the 10<sup>th</sup> percentile for the class). Mitigation may be required if the bill impact related to the application exceeds 10% for these customers.

Cooperative Hydro Embrun submits that the implementation of the transition results in an increase to the fixed charge prior to the price cap adjustment of \$3.80. The bill impacts arising from the proposals in this application, including the fixed rate change, are below 10% for low volume residential customers.

### Findings

The OEB finds that the proposed 2020 increase to the monthly fixed charge is calculated in accordance with the OEB's residential rate design policy. The results of the monthly fixed charge, and total bill impact for low consumption residential consumers, demonstrate that no mitigation is required. The OEB approves the increase as proposed by the applicant and calculated in the final Rate Generator Model. The distributor has now completed its transition to a fully fixed rate structure for residential customers.

## **10 IMPLEMENTATION AND ORDER**

This Decision is accompanied by a Rate Generator Model, applicable supporting models, and a Tariff of Rates and Charges (Schedule A).

Model entries were reviewed in order to ensure that they are in accordance with Cooperative Hydro Embrun's last cost of service decision, and to ensure that the 2019 OEB-approved Tariff of Rates and Charges, as well as the cost, revenue and consumption results from 2018, are as reported by Cooperative Hydro Embrun to the OEB.

The Rate Generator Model was adjusted, where applicable, to correct any discrepancies. The Rate Generator Model incorporates the rates set out in the following table.

### Table 10.1: Regulatory Charges

Rate	per kWh
Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection (RRRP)	\$0.0005
Wholesale Market Service (WMS) billed to Class A and B Customers	\$0.0030
Capacity Based Recovery (CBR) billed to Class B Customers	\$0.0004

Each of these rates is a component of the "Regulatory Charge" on a customer's bill, established annually by the OEB through a separate, generic order. The RRRP, WMS and CBR rates were set by the OEB on December 20, 2018.<sup>26</sup>

The Smart Metering Entity Charge is a component of the "Distribution Charge" on a customer's bill, established by the OEB through a separate order. The Smart Metering Entity Charge was set by the OEB on March 1, 2018.<sup>27</sup>

### THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

 The Tariff of Rates and Charges set out in Schedule A of this Decision and Rate Order is approved effective January 1, 2020 for electricity consumed or estimated to have been consumed on and after such date. Cooperative Hydro Embrun Inc. shall notify its customers of the rate changes no later than the delivery of the first bill reflecting the new final rates.

### DATED at Toronto, December 12, 2019

### **ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

Original Signed By

Christine E. Long Registrar and Board Secretary

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> EB-2018-0294, Decision and Order, December 20, 2018.
 <sup>27</sup> EB-2017-0290, Decision and Order, March 1, 2018.

Schedule A To Decision and Rate Order Tariff of Rates and Charges OEB File No: EB-2019-0028 DATED: December 12, 2019

Effective and Implementation Date January 1, 2020 This schedule supersedes and replaces all previously approved schedules of Rates, Charges and Loss Factors

EB-2019-0028

## **RESIDENTIAL SERVICE CLASSIFICATION**

This classification applies to an account taking electricity at 750 volts or less where the electricity is used exclusively in a separate metered living accommodation. Customers shall be residing in single-dwelling units that consist of a detached house or one unit of a semi-detached, duplex, triplex or quadruplex house, with a residential zoning. Separately metered dwellings within a town house complex or apartment building also qualify as residential customers. All customers are single-phase. Class B consumers are defined in accordance with O. Reg. 429/04. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

#### APPLICATION

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by Ontario Energy Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

No rates and charges for the distribution of electricity and charges to meet the costs of any work or service done or furnished for the purpose of the distribution of electricity shall be made except as permitted by this schedule, unless required by the Distributor's Licence or a Code or Order of Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by Ontario Energy Board, or as specified herein.

Unless specifically noted, this schedule does not contain any charges for the electricity commodity, be it under the Regulated Price Plan, a contract with a retailer or the wholesale market price, as applicable. In addition, the charges in the MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component of this schedule do not apply to a customer that is an embedded wholesale market participant.

It should be noted that this schedule does not list any charges, assessments, or credits that are required by law to be invoiced by a distributor and that are not subject to Ontario Energy Board approval, such as the Global Adjustment and the HST.

#### **MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Delivery Component**

Service Charge	\$	36.63
Smart Metering Entity Charge - effective until December 31, 2022	\$	0.57
Rate Rider for Disposition of Group 2 Deferral/Variance Accounts (2018) - effective until December 31, 2020	\$	0.21
Low Voltage Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0033
Rate Rider for Disposition of Deferral/Variance Accounts (2018) - effective until December 31, 2020	\$/kWh	0.0021
Rate Rider for Disposition of Global Adjustment Account (2018) - effective until December 31, 2020		
Applicable only for Non-RPP Customers	\$/kWh	(0.0008)
Rate Rider for Disposition of Lost Revenue Adjustment Mechanism Variance Account (LRAMVA) (2018)		
- effective until December 31, 2020	\$/kWh	0.0001
Rate Rider for Disposition of Lost Revenue Adjustment Mechanism Variance Account (LRAMVA) (2020)		
- effective until December 31, 2020	\$/kWh	0.0004
Retail Transmission Rate - Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0075
Retail Transmission Rate - Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0065
MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component		

Wholesale Market Service Rate (WMS) - not including CBR	\$/kWh	0.0030
Capacity Based Recovery (CBR) - Applicable for Class B Customers	\$/kWh	0.0004
Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge (RRRP)	\$/kWh	0.0005
Standard Supply Service - Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Effective and Implementation Date January 1, 2020

This schedule supersedes and replaces all previously

approved schedules of Rates, Charges and Loss Factors

EB-2019-0028

### GENERAL SERVICE LESS THAN 50 KW SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification applies to a non-residential account taking electricity at 750 volts or less whose average monthly maximum demand is less than, or is forecast to be less than, 50 kW. Class B consumers are defined in accordance with O. Reg. 429/04. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

#### APPLICATION

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by Ontario Energy Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

No rates and charges for the distribution of electricity and charges to meet the costs of any work or service done or furnished for the purpose of the distribution of electricity shall be made except as permitted by this schedule, unless required by the Distributor's Licence or a Code or Order of Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by Ontario Energy Board, or as specified herein.

Unless specifically noted, this schedule does not contain any charges for the electricity commodity, be it under the Regulated Price Plan, a contract with a retailer or the wholesale market price, as applicable. In addition, the charges in the MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component of this schedule do not apply to a customer that is an embedded wholesale market participant.

It should be noted that this schedule does not list any charges, assessments, or credits that are required by law to be invoiced by a distributor and that are not subject to Ontario Energy Board approval, such as the Global Adjustment and the HST.

#### **MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Delivery Component**

Service Charge	\$	21.86
Smart Metering Entity Charge - effective until December 31, 2022	\$	0.57
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0183
Low Voltage Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0029
Rate Rider for Disposition of Deferral/Variance Accounts (2018) - effective until December 31, 2020	\$/kWh	0.0023
Rate Rider for Disposition of Global Adjustment Account (2018) - effective until December 31, 2020		
Applicable only for Non-RPP Customers	\$/kWh	(0.0008)
Rate Rider for Disposition of Group 2 Deferral/Variance Accounts (2018) - effective until December 31, 2020	\$/kWh	0.0002
Rate Rider for Disposition of Lost Revenue Adjustment Mechanism Variance Account (LRAMVA) (2018)		
- effective until December 31, 2020	\$/kWh	0.0010
Rate Rider for Disposition of Lost Revenue Adjustment Mechanism Variance Account (LRAMVA) (2020)		
- effective until December 31, 2020	\$/kWh	0.0003
Retail Transmission Rate - Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0069
Retail Transmission Rate - Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0056

Wholesale Market Service Rate (WMS) - not including CBR	\$/kWh	0.0030
Capacity Based Recovery (CBR) - Applicable for Class B Customers	\$/kWh	0.0004
Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge (RRRP)	\$/kWh	0.0005
Standard Supply Service - Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Effective and Implementation Date January 1, 2020

This schedule supersedes and replaces all previously approved schedules of Rates, Charges and Loss Factors

EB-2019-0028

### **GENERAL SERVICE 50 TO 4,999 KW SERVICE CLASSIFICATION**

This classification applies to a non-residential account whose average monthly maximum demand used for billing purposes is equal to or greater than, or is forecast to be equal to or greater than, 50 kW but less than 5,000 kW. Class A and Class B consumers are defined in accordance with O. Reg. 429/04. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

#### APPLICATION

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by Ontario Energy Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

No rates and charges for the distribution of electricity and charges to meet the costs of any work or service done or furnished for the purpose of the distribution of electricity shall be made except as permitted by this schedule, unless required by the Distributor's Licence or a Code or Order of Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by Ontario Energy Board, or as specified herein.

Unless specifically noted, this schedule does not contain any charges for the electricity commodity, be it under the Regulated Price Plan, a contract with a retailer or the wholesale market price, as applicable. In addition, the charges in the MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component of this schedule do not apply to a customer that is an embedded wholesale market participant.

If included in the following listing of monthly rates and charges, the rate rider for the disposition of WMS - Sub-account CBR Class B is not applicable to wholesale market participants (WMP), customers that transitioned between Class A and Class B during the variance account accumulation period, or to customers that were in Class A for the entire period. Customers who transitioned are to be charged or refunded their share of the variance disposed through customer specific billing adjustments. This rate rider is to be consistently applied for the entire period to the sunset date of the rate rider. In addition, this rate rider is applicable to all new Class B customers.

If included in the following listing of monthly rates and charges, the rate rider for the disposition of Global Adjustment is only applicable to non-RPP Class B customers. It is not applicable to WMP, customers that transitioned between Class A and Class B during the variance account accumulation period, or to customers that were in Class A for the entire period. Customers who transitioned are to be charged or refunded their share of the variance disposed through customer specific billing adjustments. This rate rider is to be consistently applied for the entire period to the sunset date of the rate rider. In addition, this rate rider is applicable to all new non-RPP Class B customers.

It should be noted that this schedule does not list any charges, assessments, or credits that are required by law to be invoiced by a distributor and that are not subject to Ontario Energy Board approval, such as the Global Adjustment and the HST.

#### **MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Delivery Component**

Service Charge	\$	190.51
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	4.0488
Low Voltage Service Rate	\$/kW	1.0823
Rate Rider for Disposition of Deferral/Variance Accounts (2018) - effective until December 31, 2020	\$/kW	0.2309
Rate Rider for Disposition of Global Adjustment Account (2018) - effective until December 31, 2020		
Applicable only for Non-RPP Customers	\$/kWh	(8000.0)

### Effective and Implementation Date January 1, 2020

This schedule supersedes and replaces all previously

#### approved schedules of Rates, Charges and Loss Factors

		EB-2019-0028
Rate Rider for Disposition of Group 2 Deferral/Variance Accounts (2018) - effective until December 31, 2020 Rate Rider for Disposition of Lost Revenue Adjustment Mechanism Variance Account (LRAMVA) (2018)	\$/kW	0.0696
- effective until December 31, 2020	\$/kW	(0.0318)
Rate Rider for Disposition of Lost Revenue Adjustment Mechanism Variance Account (LRAMVA) (2020)		
- effective until December 31, 2020	\$/kW	(0.0596)
Retail Transmission Rate - Network Service Rate	\$/kW	2.7849
Retail Transmission Rate - Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kW	2.2761

Wholesale Market Service Rate (WMS) - not including CBR	\$/kWh	0.0030
Capacity Based Recovery (CBR) - Applicable for Class B Customers	\$/kWh	0.0004
Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge (RRRP)	\$/kWh	0.0005
Standard Supply Service - Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Effective and Implementation Date January 1, 2020 This schedule supersedes and replaces all previously

approved schedules of Rates, Charges and Loss Factors

EB-2019-0028

## UNMETERED SCATTERED LOAD SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification applies to an account taking electricity at 750 volts or less whose average monthly maximum demand is less than, or is forecast to be less than, 50 kW and the consumption is unmetered. Such connections include cable TV power packs, bus shelters, telephone booths, traffic lights, railway crossings, etc. The level of the consumption will be agreed to by the distributor and the customer, based on detailed manufacturer information/ documentation with regard to electrical consumption of the unmetered load or periodic monitoring of actual consumption. Class B consumers are defined in accordance with O. Reg. 429/04. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

#### APPLICATION

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by Ontario Energy Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

No rates and charges for the distribution of electricity and charges to meet the costs of any work or service done or furnished for the purpose of the distribution of electricity shall be made except as permitted by this schedule, unless required by the Distributor's Licence or a Code or Order of Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by Ontario Energy Board, or as specified herein.

Unless specifically noted, this schedule does not contain any charges for the electricity commodity be it under the Regulated Price Plan, a contract with a retailer or the wholesale market price, as applicable. In addition, the charges in the MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component of this schedule do not apply to a customer that is an embedded wholesale market participant.

It should be noted that this schedule does not list any charges, assessments, or credits that are required by law to be invoiced by a distributor and that are not subject to Ontario Energy Board approval, such as the Global Adjustment and the HST.

#### **MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Delivery Component**

Service Charge (per customer)	\$	21.91
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0150
Low Voltage Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0029
Rate Rider for Disposition of Deferral/Variance Accounts (2018) - effective until December 31, 2020	\$/kWh	0.0024
Rate Rider for Disposition of Group 2 Deferral/Variance Accounts (2018) - effective until December 31, 2020	\$/kWh	0.0002
Rate Rider for Disposition of Lost Revenue Adjustment Mechanism Variance Account (LRAMVA) (2018) - effective until December 31, 2020	\$/kWh	(0.0001)
Rate Rider for Disposition of Lost Revenue Adjustment Mechanism Variance Account (LRAMVA) (2020)		
- effective until December 31, 2020	\$/kWh	(0.0001)
Retail Transmission Rate - Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0069
Retail Transmission Rate - Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0056

Wholesale Market Service Rate (WMS) - not including CBR	\$/kWh	0.0030
Capacity Based Recovery (CBR) - Applicable for Class B Customers	\$/kWh	0.0004
Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge (RRRP)	\$/kWh	0.0005
Standard Supply Service - Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Effective and Implementation Date January 1, 2020 This schedule supersedes and replaces all previously approved schedules of Rates, Charges and Loss Factors

EB-2019-0028

## STREET LIGHTING SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification applies to an account for roadway lighting with a Municipality, Regional Municipality, Ministry of Transportation and private roadway lighting, controlled by photo cells. The consumption for these customers will be based on the calculated connected load times the required lighting times established in the approved Ontario Energy Board street lighting load shape template. Class B consumers are defined in accordance with O. Reg. 429/04. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

#### APPLICATION

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by Ontario Energy Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

No rates and charges for the distribution of electricity and charges to meet the costs of any work or service done or furnished for the purpose of the distribution of electricity shall be made except as permitted by this schedule, unless required by the Distributor's Licence or a Code or Order of Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by Ontario Energy Board, or as specified herein.

Unless specifically noted, this schedule does not contain any charges for the electricity commodity, be it under the Regulated Price Plan, a contract with a retailer or the wholesale market price, as applicable. In addition, the charges in the MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component of this schedule do not apply to a customer that is an embedded wholesale market participant.

It should be noted that this schedule does not list any charges, assessments, or credits that are required by law to be invoiced by a distributor and that are not subject to Ontario Energy Board approval, such as the Global Adjustment and the HST.

#### **MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Delivery Component**

Service Charge (per connection)	\$	2.31
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	20.9565
Low Voltage Service Rate	\$/kW	0.8367
Rate Rider for Disposition of Deferral/Variance Accounts (2018) - effective until December 31, 2020	\$/kW	0.3068
Rate Rider for Disposition of Global Adjustment Account (2018) - effective until December 31, 2020		
Applicable only for Non-RPP Customers	\$/kWh	(8000.0)
Rate Rider for Disposition of Group 2 Deferral/Variance Accounts (2018) - effective until December 31, 2020	\$/kW	0.0832
Rate Rider for Disposition of Lost Revenue Adjustment Mechanism Variance Account (LRAMVA) (2018)		
- effective until December 31, 2020	\$/kW	(0.1225)
Rate Rider for Disposition of Lost Revenue Adjustment Mechanism Variance Account (LRAMVA) (2020)		
- effective until December 31, 2020	\$/kW	(0.2041)
Retail Transmission Rate - Network Service Rate	\$/kW	2.1004
Retail Transmission Rate - Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kW	1.7596

Wholesale Market Service Rate (WMS) - not including CBR	\$/kWh	0.0030
Capacity Based Recovery (CBR) - Applicable for Class B Customers	\$/kWh	0.0004
Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge (RRRP)	\$/kWh	0.0005
Standard Supply Service - Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Effective and Implementation Date January 1, 2020 This schedule supersedes and replaces all previously approved schedules of Rates, Charges and Loss Factors

EB-2019-0028

### microFIT SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification applies to an electricity generation facility contracted under the Independent Electricity System Operator's microFIT program and connected to the distributor's distribution system. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

#### APPLICATION

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by Ontario Energy Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

No rates and charges for the distribution of electricity and charges to meet the costs of any work or service done or furnished for the purpose of the distribution of electricity shall be made except as permitted by this schedule, unless required by the Distributor's Licence or a Code or Order of Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by Ontario Energy Board, or as specified herein.

Unless specifically noted, this schedule does not contain any charges for the electricity commodity, be it under the Regulated Price Plan, a contract with a retailer or the wholesale market price, as applicable. In addition, the charges in the MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component of this schedule do not apply to a customer that is an embedded wholesale market participant.

It should be noted that this schedule does not list any charges, assessments, or credits that are required by law to be invoiced by a distributor and that are not subject to Ontario Energy Board approval, such as the Global Adjustment and the HST.

#### **MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Delivery Component**

Service Charge

10.00

\$

Effective and Implementation Date January 1, 2020

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## ALLOWANCES

EB-2019-0028

Transformer Allowance for Ownership - per kW of billing demand/month	\$/kW	(0.60)
Primary Metering Allowance for Transformer Losses - applied to measured demand & energy	%	(1.00)

## SPECIFIC SERVICE CHARGES

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by Ontario Energy Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

No charges to meet the costs of any work or service done or furnished for the purpose of the distribution of electricity shall be made except as permitted by this schedule, unless required by the Distributor's Licence or a Code or Order of Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by Ontario Energy Board, or as specified herein.

It should be noted that this schedule does not list any charges, assessments, or credits that are required by law to be invoiced by a distributor and that are not subject to Ontario Energy Board approval, such as the Global Adjustment and the HST.

Customer Administration		
Arrears certificate	\$	15.00
Statement of account	\$	15.00
Duplicate invoices for previous billing	\$	15.00
Request for other billing information	\$	15.00
Income tax letter	\$	15.00
Account history	\$	15.00
Credit check (plus credit agency costs)	\$	25.00
Returned cheque (plus bank charges)	\$	15.00
Legal letter charge	\$	15.00
Account set up charge/change of occupancy charge (plus credit agency costs if applicable)	\$	15.00
Meter dispute charge plus Measurement Canada fees (if meter found correct)	\$	30.00
Non-Payment of Account		
Late payment - per month		
(effective annual rate 19.56% per annum or 0.04896% compounded daily rate)	%	1.50
Reconnection at meter - during regular hours	\$	25.00
Reconnection at meter - after regular hours	\$	50.00
Reconnection at pole - during regular hours	\$	185.00
Reconnection at pole - after hours	\$	415.00
Other		
Special meter reads	\$	20.00
Service call - customer owned equipment	\$	30.00
Service call - after regular hours	\$	165.00
Temporary service - installation and removal - overhead - no transformer	\$	500.00
Temporary service - installation and removal - underground - no transformer	\$	300.00
Temporary service - installation and removal - overhead - with transformer	\$	1,000.00
Specific charge for access to the power poles - \$/pole/year		
(with the exception of wireless attachments)	\$	44.50

Effective and Implementation Date January 1, 2020 This schedule supersedes and replaces all previously approved schedules of Rates, Charges and Loss Factors

EB-2019-0028

## **RETAIL SERVICE CHARGES (if applicable)**

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by Ontario Energy Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

No rates and charges for the distribution of electricity and charges to meet the costs of any work or service done or furnished for the purpose of the distribution of electricity shall be made except as permitted by this schedule, unless required by the Distributor's Licence or a Code or Order of Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by Ontario Energy Board, or as specified herein.

Unless specifically noted, this schedule does not contain any charges for the electricity commodity, be it under the Regulated Price Plan, a contract with a retailer or the wholesale market price, as applicable.

It should be noted that this schedule does not list any charges, assessments, or credits that are required by law to be invoiced by a distributor and that are not subject to Ontario Energy Board approval, such as the Global Adjustment and the HST.

Retail Service Charges refer to services provided by a distributor to retailers or customers related to the supply of competitive electricity.

One-time charge, per retailer, to establish the service agreement between the distributor and the retailer	\$	102.00
Monthly fixed charge, per retailer	\$	40.80
Monthly variable charge, per customer, per retailer	\$/cust.	1.02
Distributor-consolidated billing monthly charge, per customer, per retailer	\$/cust.	0.61
Retailer-consolidated billing monthly credit, per customer, per retailer	\$/cust.	(0.61)
Service Transaction Requests (STR)		
Request fee, per request, applied to the requesting party	\$	0.51
Processing fee, per request, applied to the requesting party	\$	1.02
Request for customer information as outlined in Section 10.6.3 and Chapter 11 of the Retail		
Settlement Code directly to retailers and customers, if not delivered electronically through the		
Electronic Business Transaction (EBT) system, applied to the requesting party		
Up to twice a year	\$	no charge
More than twice a year, per request (plus incremental delivery costs)	\$	4.08
Notice of switch letter charge, per letter (unless the distributor has opted out of applying the charge as per the		
Ontario Energy Board's Decision and Order EB-2015-0304, issued on February 14, 2019)	\$	2.04

## LOSS FACTORS

If the distributor is not capable of prorating changed loss factors jointly with distribution rates, the revised loss factors will be implemented upon the first subsequent billing for each billing cycle.

Total Loss Factor - Secondary Metered Customer < 5,000 kW	1.0749
Total Loss Factor - Primary Metered Customer < 5,000 kW	1.0650