



PUBLIC INTEREST ADVOCACY CENTRE
LE CENTRE POUR LA DÉFENSE DE L'INTÉRÊT PUBLIC

December 19, 2019

VIA E-MAIL

Ms. Christine Long
Registrar & Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319, 27th
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Long:

**Re: EB-2019-0170 – PUC Distribution Inc. 2020 Electricity Distribution Rates – ICM
VECC Interrogatories**

Please find enclosed the interrogatories of VECC in the above-noted proceeding. We have also directed a copy of the same to the Applicant.

Yours truly,

(Original Signed By)

John Lawford
Counsel for VECC

Copy to: Mark Fought, PUC Distribution Inc.

EB-2019-0071

PUC Distribution Inc.

Application for electricity distribution rates effective May 1, 2019

VECC Interrogatories

December 19, 2019

VECC-1

Ref: Appendix 7 Page 5

PUC indicates PUC indicates reliability is the primary driver to renew the station.

- a) Please provide the total number of outages, customer interruptions and customer interruption minutes for each of the years 2015 to 2019 on PUC's System.
- b) Please provide the number of outages, customer interruptions and customer interruption minutes for each of the years 2015 to 2019 on PUC's System due to defective equipment.
- c) Please provide the number of outages, customer interruptions and customer interruption minutes for each of the years 2015 to 2019 on PUC's System due to Substation 16.
- d) Please provide the number of outages, customer interruptions and customer interruption minutes for each of the years 2015 to 2019 on PUC's System by major equipment type at Substation 16.

VECC-2

Ref: Appendix 7 Page 9 Table 2: Capital

- a) Please confirm the capital/in-service amount in rates.
- b) Please explain the capital variance in 2018.
- c) Please provide forecast compared to actual data related to capital for the years 2015 to 2017.
- d) Please explain the capital variance in 2019 excluding Substation 16.
- e) Please provide PUC's latest capital plan (Appendix 2-AA).
- f) Please advise of any discretionary capital spending in 2020.

VECC-3

Ref: Appendix 7 Page 11

- a) Please provide a list of the key equipment types, quantities and age of each at Substation 16.
- b) Please provide the Expected Service Life of each of these key equipment types.
- c) Please provide the number of outages, customer interruptions and customer interruption minutes for each of the years 2015 to 2019 related to each of these key equipment types at Substation 16.

VECC-4

Ref: Appendix 7 Page 6

The evidence states “PUC has proceeded with the ordering of power transformers and switchgear with the expected delivery in the fourth quarter of 2020 to allow sufficient time to meet the 2020 in service requirements prior to the winter season.”

Please provide the expected delivery dates in Q4 2020 for power transformers and switchgear and explain the impacts of any delays.

VECC-5

Ref: Appendix 7 Page 12

PUC indicates maintaining the station in service over the past five years has required significant repairs.

- a) Please provide the maintenance costs at Substation 16 for each of the years 2015 to 2019.

VECC-6

Ref: P15 Figure 3

PUC provides the historical loading at Substation 16 for the years 2000 to 2019.

- a) Please provide a schedule that sets out numerical load details at Substation 16 by month for the years 2018 and 2019.
- b) Please provide the load forecast for 2020 to 2022.

VECC-7

Ref: Appendix 7 P15 Figure 6

Please provide explain any data gaps (i.e. incomplete testing) regarding the condition of switchgear at Substation 16.

VECC-8

Ref: Appendix 7 P15 Figure 7

The health index of other assets at Substation 16 is poor condition.

- a) Please provide the asset types including under “other assets”.
- b) Please explain any data gaps regarding the condition of other assets at Substation 16.

VECC-9

Ref: Appendix 7 P16 Option 1

- a) Please provide a copy of ESA’s inspection report of Substation 16 and the date of the report.
- b) Please provide a schedule that sets out each of the seven deficiencies, the estimated cost to address each ESA deficiency and identify the work completed to date and the work that is outstanding.

VECC-10

Ref: Appendix 7 Page 12 Appendix D P1

PUC's Substation 10 rebuild was completed in 2015 for a total of \$4,483,000 and the total estimated cost of the Sub 16 rebuild is \$3,910,244.00. Sub 16 is estimated to be less than Sub 10 due to a different switchgear type being used which will allow the buildings footprint to be reduce by about 40%.

- a) Please provide a schedule that sets out the original estimated budget of Substation 10 compared to actuals and explain any actuals.
- b) Please provide the original estimated schedule with milestones for Substation 10 compared to actuals and explain any variances.
- c) Please provide the cost and schedule contingency for the Substation 10 project and explain how much was used any why.

VECC-11

Ref: Appendix 7 Page 12 Appendix D P3

PUC indicates maintaining
the new Sub 16 will reduce O&M when compared to the existing Sub 16 O&M requirements.

Please provide the anticipated annual savings in 2021.

VECC-12

Ref: Appendix E Project Schedule

- a) The Tendering Phase is shown as May 15 to Dec 6. Please provide the current status of the tendering process and summarize the bids and the outcome of the process or explain any delays.

b) Please provide the schedule contingency for the project.

VECC-13

a) Please provide the detailed cost estimate for Substation 16.

b) Please provide the cost contingency amount for Substation 16.

c) Please provide the latest expenditure timing for the test year by quarter.