

February 20, 2020

**VIA RESS AND COURIER**

Ms. Christine E. Long  
Registrar and Board Secretary  
Ontario Energy Board  
2300 Yonge Street  
27th Floor, Box 2319  
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Long;

**Re: APPLICATION BY ALECTRA UTILITIES CORPORATION FOR DISTRIBUTION RATES  
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020 (EB-2019-0018) – COST CLAIMS**

On May 28, 2019, Alectra Utilities Corporation (“Alectra”) filed an Electricity Distribution Rate (“EDR”) Application with the Ontario Energy Board (“OEB” or the “Board”), for rates effective January 1, 2020.

The following parties were granted intervenor status in this proceeding by the Board and were found to be eligible for cost awards:

- Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario (“AMPCO”);
- Building Owners and Managers Association (“BOMA”);
- Consumers Council of Canada (“CCC”);
- Distributed Resource Coalition (“DRC”);
- Energy Probe Research Foundation (“Energy Probe”);
- Max Aicher (North America) Ltd. and Max Aicher (North America) Bloom Mill (“MANA”);
- School Energy Coalition (“SEC”); and
- Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (“VECC”).

Power Workers’ Union (“PWU”) was also granted intervenor status. In a letter dated, July 10, 2019, PWU indicated that it would not be seeking an award of costs in respect of this proceeding.

On July 9, 2019, the Board issued Procedural Order No. 1, which addressed the issues eligible for cost awards. The Board approved cost eligibility only in relation to the M-factor and Alectra Utilities’ request to reverse the outcome of the prior OEB decision on capitalization policy.

A Partial Decision and Interim Rate Order, dealing with the IRM components of this application, was issued on December 12, 2019.

Alectra filed a draft rate order on February 10, 2020 that included detailed supporting information showing the calculation of the interim rates.

On January 30, 2020, the Board issued its Partial Decision and Order, which addressed the M-factor and the capitalization policy components. The Board ordered eligible intervenors to file their cost claims by February 13, 2020. The Board also ordered Alectra to file any objections to cost claims by February 20, 2020.

Alectra received cost claims from: BOMA and Energy Probe on February 5, 2020; DRC on February 7, 2020; SEC on February 11, 2020; MANA and VECC on February 12, 2020; AMPCO on February 14, 2020 and from CCC on February 17, 2020. Alectra has reviewed the cost claims it has received and offers submissions only with respect to the MANA cost claim.

### **MANA Cost Claim**

MANA has claimed a total of \$33,030.63 in fees, inclusive of HST, in this proceeding.

Alectra is concerned about the costs claimed under the Argument category. MANA claimed 62.50 hours under this category, which includes the costs of two legal counsel and one articling student/paralegal. The average number of hours claimed for Argument by all intervenors, excluding SEC, is 35.65 hrs.; MANA's claim is 26.85 hours more than the average.

The Energy Probe and DRC costs claimed under the Argument category included the costs for two consultants and/or legal counsel. However, the total cost claimed under this category for Energy Probe was 34.50 hrs., and 27.10 hrs. for DRC, both of which are within the average claimed by all intervenors.

Alectra encourages the OEB to consider the value that MANA's participation added to this proceeding. Alectra submits that the number of hours claimed by MANA should be reduced on an overall basis to the average of that of the other intervenors in this case.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,

*Original signed by Indy Butany-DeSouza*

Indy J. Butany-DeSouza, MBA  
Vice-President, Regulatory Affairs  
Alectra Utilities Corporation