



**Greater Sudbury Hydro Inc.**

**Application for electricity distribution rates beginning  
May 1, 2020**

**DECISION ON ISSUES LIST  
March 18, 2020**

Greater Sudbury Hydro Inc. (Greater Sudbury Hydro) filed a cost of service application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on October 31, 2019 under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, c. 15, (Schedule B), seeking approval for changes to the rates that Greater Sudbury Hydro charges for electricity distribution, to be effective May 1, 2020.

A Notice of Hearing was issued on December 16, 2019. The OEB approved intervenor status and cost eligibility for Energy Probe, Pollution Probe, School Energy Coalition and Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition.

Procedural Order (PO) No. 1 dated January 22, 2020, set out scheduled procedural steps in the proceeding, including, among other things, the filing of a proposed issues list. In PO No. 2 dated March 2, 2020, the OEB granted a time extension for Greater Sudbury Hydro to file its interrogatory responses. The date for filing a proposed issues list was also adjusted to provide adequate time for parties to review the interrogatory responses.

On March 16, 2020, OEB staff filed a proposed issues list that had been agreed to by the parties to the proceeding.

**Findings**

The OEB has reviewed the proposed issues list and finds it appropriate for the purposes of this proceeding.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

1. The approved issues list is attached to this Decision as Schedule A.

**DATED** at Toronto, **March 18, 2020**

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

*Original signed by*

Christine E. Long  
Registrar and Board Secretary

**SCHEDULE A**

**GREATER SUDBURY HYDRO INC.**

**EB-2019-0037**

**APPROVED ISSUES LIST**

**MARCH 18, 2020**

**PROPOSED ISSUES LIST**  
**EB-2019-0037**  
**Greater Sudbury Hydro Inc. (Sudbury Hydro)**

**1.0 PLANNING**

**1.1 Capital**

Is the level of planned capital expenditures appropriate and is the rationale for planning and pacing choices appropriate and adequately explained, giving due consideration to:

- customer feedback and preferences
- productivity
- benchmarking of costs
- reliability and service quality
- impact on distribution rates
- trade-offs with OM&A spending
- government-mandated obligations
- the objectives of Sudbury Hydro and its customers
- the distribution system plan
- the business plan

**1.2 OM&A**

Is the level of planned OM&A expenditures appropriate and is the rationale for planning choices appropriate and adequately explained, giving due consideration to:

- customer feedback and preferences
- productivity
- benchmarking of costs
- reliability and service quality
- impact on distribution rates
- trade-offs with capital spending
- government-mandated obligations
- the objectives of Sudbury Hydro and its customers
- the distribution system plan
- the business plan

**1.3 Shared Services and Corporate Cost Allocation**

Is the proposed shared services cost allocation methodology and the quantum appropriate?

## **2.0 REVENUE REQUIREMENT**

- 2.1** Are all elements of the revenue requirement reasonable, and have they been appropriately determined in accordance with OEB policies and practices?
- 2.2** Has the revenue requirement been accurately determined based on these elements?

## **3.0 LOAD FORECAST, COST ALLOCATION AND RATE DESIGN**

- 3.1** Are the proposed load and customer forecast, loss factors, CDM adjustments and resulting billing determinants appropriate, and, to the extent applicable, are they an appropriate reflection of the energy and demand requirements of Sudbury Hydro's customers?
- 3.2** Are the proposed cost allocation methodology, allocations, and revenue-to-cost ratios, appropriate?
- 3.3** Are Sudbury Hydro's proposals for rate design appropriate?
- 3.4** Are the proposed Retail Transmission Service Rates and Low Voltage Service Rates appropriate?

## **4.0 ACCOUNTING**

- 4.1** Have all impacts of any changes in accounting standards, policies, estimates and adjustments been properly identified and recorded, and is the rate-making treatment of each of these impacts appropriate?
- 4.2** Are Sudbury Hydro's proposals for deferral and variance accounts, including the balances in the existing accounts and their disposition, requests for discontinuation of accounts, request for new accounts, and the continuation of existing accounts, appropriate?

## **5.0 OTHER**

- 5.1** Are the Advanced Capital Module proposals for the four station rebuilds appropriate, and does the proposal include sufficient justification and cost estimates to show need and prudence?
- 5.2** Is the proposed effective date (i.e. May 1, 2020) for 2020 rates appropriate?
- 5.3** Are rate mitigation proposals required for any rate classes?

**5.4 Are the Specific Service Charges, Retail Service Charges, and Pole Attachment Charge appropriate?**