



Ontario
Energy
Board | Commission
de l'énergie
de l'Ontario

BY EMAIL

April 28, 2020

To: All Parties in EB-2019-0037

**Re: Greater Sudbury Hydro Inc. (Greater Sudbury Hydro)
Application for 2020 Rates
Ontario Energy Board File Number: EB-2019-0037**

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) is in receipt of the settlement proposal, filed on April 20, 2020. Procedural Order No. 1, issued on January 22, 2020, tentatively scheduled a presentation of the settlement proposal on May 1, 2020. The OEB has reviewed the filed settlement proposal and does not find it necessary to have the settlement proposal presented. The presentation of the settlement proposal on May 1, 2020 is cancelled.

In the settlement proposal, the parties agreed that "Greater Sudbury Hydro shall advise the OEB by April 23, 2020 as to whether, if the settlement proposal was approved, Greater Sudbury Hydro would exercise the option to delay implementation of its rates to November 1, 2020."¹ The parties also agreed that "any party may take any position, or request any relief from the OEB, that they may deem appropriate as it relates to the impact or effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on Greater Sudbury Hydro and/or its customers, for 2020 or otherwise."²

The OEB has received Greater Sudbury Hydro's April 23, 2020 letter addressing the implementation date. In that letter, Greater Sudbury Hydro advised that it is proposing to defer its increases in base distribution rates, retail transmission service rates and the low voltage rates to November 1, 2020 (tracking the foregone revenue in Account 1509). In addition, Greater Sudbury Hydro stated that "[w]hen reviewing the impact of

¹ EB-2019-0037, Greater Sudbury Hydro Letter – 2020 Cost of Service Application Implementation Date, April 23, 2020

² *ibid.*

deferred rate implementation as envisioned by the [OEB's] April 16 and 17 letters [Greater Sudbury Hydro] determined that there are certain factors that would suggest a different approach may be appropriate.”³ As a result, Greater Sudbury Hydro proposed to (i) implement its line loss factor effective May 1, 2020; and (ii) implement proposed rate riders effective May 1, 2020, instead of November 1, 2020. Greater Sudbury Hydro’s letter referred to this approach as its “adjusted deferral proposal”.

Greater Sudbury Hydro explained that the adjusted deferral proposal may be appropriate in order to provide the intended benefit of the April 16th and 17th letters for its customers, particularly in the short term by reducing the increase in bill impacts starting May 1, 2020.

In considering the adjusted deferral proposal of Greater Sudbury Hydro, the OEB wishes to provide intervenors an opportunity to raise any concerns with that approach. Any intervenor wishing to do so may file comments on Greater Sudbury Hydro’s adjusted deferral proposal with the OEB by May 1, 2020.

Yours truly,

Original signed by

Christine E. Long
Registrar and Board Secretary

³ EB-2019-0037, Greater Sudbury Hydro Letter – 2020 Cost of Service Application Implementation Date, April 23, 2020