

August 20, 2020

Ontario Energy Board PO Box 2319, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor 2300 Yonge Street Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Attention: Christine Long, Board Secretary and Registrar

Re: Hearst Power Distribution Company Ltd. notice of Delay in filing its 2021 Cost of Service Application

Dear Ms.Long,

Hearst Power Distribution Company Ltd. ("HPDCL)'s 2021 rates are set to be effective May 1,2021. As such, the utility's deadline for filing its 2021 Cost of Service application is August 31,2020.

Although HPDCL remains committed to submitting a complete application that conforms to the most recent filing requirements issued by the Board, it regrets to inform the Board that it will not be able to meet the filing deadline due to delays caused by several factors, the main issue being Covid-19.

HPDCL recognize s that the province and utilities have been faced with an unprecedented challenge due to the global Covid-19 pandemic. The Covid-19 pandemic and the drastic measures taken to curb its impact has affected almost every facet of life, impacting both HPDCL and its customers.

As a result of the pandemic, HPDCL's internal resources and efforts, which would normally have been focused largely on the cost of service application process, have instead been diverted to dealing with the issues that come with the current pandemic focused environment.

HPDCL will continue to work diligently to submit an application on or before November 30, 2019.

Sincerely, Jessy Richard

Original Signed by:

Jessy Richard, Directeur Général Hearst Power Distribution Co. Ltd. Tel: 705-372-2820 <u>irichard@hearstpower.com</u>