



**EB-2007-0746**

**IN THE MATTER OF** the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998,  
S.O. 1998, c.15 (Schedule B);

**AND IN THE MATTER OF** an application by Barrie Hydro  
Distribution Inc. for an order approving or fixing just and  
reasonable rates and other charges for the distribution of  
electricity to be effective May 1, 2008.

**BEFORE:** Gordon Kaiser  
Vice-Chair and Presiding Member

Cynthia Chaplin  
Member

## **DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS**

### **Background**

On October 3, 2007, Barrie Hydro Distribution Inc. ("Barrie") filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998, seeking approval for changes to the rates that it charges for electricity distribution, to be effective May 1, 2008.

The School Energy Coalition ("SEC") and the Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition ("VECC") received intervenor status and were deemed eligible to apply for an award of costs.

The Board issued its Decision on the application on March 25, 2008, in which it set out the process for intervenors to file their cost claims and to respond to any objections raised by Barrie.

The Board received cost claims from SEC and VECC. No comments were received from Barrie.

The Board made two types of adjustments to the cost claims. On November 16, 2007, the Board amended its Practice Direction to reflect a new tariff for legal counsel and consultants. The letter that accompanied the amendments to the tariff stated that the "new tariffs may be applied for work that is performed on or after November 16, 2007." Therefore, the old tariff applies to all work performed before November 16, 2007. The cost claim of SEC was adjusted because it did not properly reflect the tariff for work done before November 16, 2007. The Board has also adjusted the cost claim of SEC to appropriately reflect the correct tariff for its counsel (0 – 5 years of experience, rather than 6 – 10 years).

	Original Amount Claimed	Board's adjusted amount
SEC	\$9,791.50	\$7,909.00
VECC	\$4,059.00	\$4,059.00

The Board finds that both parties are eligible for 100% of their reasonably incurred costs of participating in this proceeding. The Board finds that each party's claims, as adjusted, are reasonable and should be reimbursed by Barrie.

**THE BOARD THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:**

1. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, Barrie shall immediately pay:
  - SEC \$7,909.00; and
  - VECC \$4,059.00
2. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, Barrie shall pay the Board's costs of and incidental to, this proceeding immediately upon receipt of the Board's invoice.

**DATED** at Toronto, June 30, 2008  
**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

*Original signed by*

Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary