



PUBLIC INTEREST ADVOCACY CENTRE
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January 27, 2021

VIA E-MAIL

Christine E. Long
Registrar
Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON
M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Long:

**Re: EB-2020-0290 – Ontario Power Generation 2022-2026 Payments
Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VEEC) Request for Intervention and
eligibility for cost awards**

Please find attached the Notice of Intervention of VECC in the above-noted proceeding. We have also directed a copy of the same to the Applicant as well as their Counsel via email.

Yours truly,

John Lawford

Counsel for VECC

OPGI - opgregaffairs@opg.com

Counsel - Charles Keizer - ckeizer@torys.com

Counsel - Crawford Smith - csmith@lolg.ca

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Ontario Power Generation (OPG)

**NOTICE OF INTERVENTION
OF THE
VULNERABLE ENERGY CONSUMERS COALITION**

To: Christine E. Long, Registrar
And to: **Ms. Evelyn Wong, Ontario Power Generation (OPG)**

IDENTITY OF THE INTERVENOR AND ITS MEMBERSHIP

1. The Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC) hereby expresses its intention to intervene and participate in the above-mentioned proceeding. VECC consists of the following organizations:
 - (a) The Federation of Metro Tenants Association (FMTA)
 - (b) The Ontario Coalition of Senior Citizens' Organizations (OCSCO)

2. The Federation of the Metro Tenants Association (the "FMTA") is a non-profit corporation composed of over ninety-two affiliated tenants associations, individual tenants, housing organizations, and members of non-profit housing co-ops. In addition to encouraging the organization of tenants and the promotion of decent and affordable housing, the Federation provides general information, advice, and assistance to tenants. The address is:

500-27 Carlton Street
Toronto, ON
M5B 1L2

3. The Ontario Coalition of Senior Citizens' Organizations ("OCSCO") is a coalition of over 160 senior groups as well as individual members across Ontario. OCSCO represents the concerns of over 500,000 senior citizens through its group and individual members. OCSCO's mission is to improve the quality of life for Ontario's seniors. OCSCO's address is:

333 Wilson Avenue, Suite 406
Toronto, ON
M3H 1T2

4. The coalition of the FMTA and OCSCO under the name VECC has the specific mandate of intervening in proceedings to advocate on behalf of the interests of Ontario's vulnerable consumers with respect to energy issues, primarily through intervention in regulatory proceedings at the Ontario Energy Board.
5. Although the organization is not itself a member of VECC, the Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC) in Ottawa assists in the representation of the interests of vulnerable consumers by ensuring the availability of competent representation and consultant support to the VECC participation.
6. VECC is a frequent intervenor in Board proceedings. Our annual information filing can be found on the Board's website at:
http://ontarioenergyboard.ca/oeb_Documents/Intervenor_Filings/VECC_2014_annual_intervenor_filing20140605.pdf

INDIVIDUALS AUTHORIZED TO REPRESENT VECC IN THIS PROCEEDING

7. The name & address of the agent authorized to receive documents on behalf of VECC is:

John Lawford
Counsel, Regulatory and Public Policy
2-285 McLeod Street,
Ottawa, Ontario
K2P 1A1
613-562-4002 ext 125
jlawford@piac.ca

PIAC Office: 613-562-4002 (Donna Brady) Ext. 121

8. VECC requests that all correspondence and documentation also be electronically copied to VECC's consultants:

Mark Garner (project manager)
647 Broadway Ave.
Toronto, Ontario
M4G 2S8
647-408-4501 (office)
markgarner@rogers.com

9. To mitigate costs VECC requests only electronic copies of the materials. VECC may ask for paper copies of some or all of the materials if this become necessary at some future point. VECC requests electronic copies of the application and any additional supporting materials be sent to its representatives at their respective e-mail addresses.

GROUNDS FOR THE INTERVENTION

10. The interest of VECC is to keep electricity commodity rates at or below the rate of consumer inflation. OPG is seeking changes to the prices charged for the proscribed hydro-electric and nuclear generating facilities. OPG is also seeking new deferral and variance accounts related to the costs of decommissioning the Pickering nuclear station. A rate smoothing plan is also sought and deferral accounts in support of that request. Over the period of the plan (January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2026) OPG is forecasting a decline in production of about 35%. Payment amount for the nuclear facilities would increase over the same period by almost 19% surpassing the expected rate of inflation (A1/T2/S2/pg.3). The application also seeks to have approved significant costs related to the Darlington Refurbishment Program.

INTERESTS OF THE INTERVENOR

11. VECC has previously been granted intervention status and cost eligibility in all of OPG's major payment and related applications and so its interests are generally understood by the Board.
12. Specifically, VECC is intervening in order to ensure that the interests of electricity consumer, particularly low-income ratepayers, are fully represented in the determination of just and reasonable prices for energy supplied by OPG.
13. VECC's interests extend to all aspects of the proposal and we intend to scrutinize all aspects of the Applicant's proposal.

INTENTION TO SEEK COST AWARDS

14. VECC will be requesting an award of costs for its participation in this proceeding and believes that, as a coalition representing the direct interests of consumers, it meets the eligibility criteria set out in the Ontario Energy Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure (Section 41) and its' Practice Direction on Cost Awards (Section 3.03).
15. VECC's members do not have access to the direct funding required to retain appropriate legal and consulting support for its intervention in OEB proceedings. Accordingly, VECC relies on PIAC to provide legal support and retain qualified consultants on the basis that PIAC can recover the related fees and disbursements from the Board based on the Board's Practice Direction on Cost Awards at the prevailing Cost Award Tariff.

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