

**BY E-MAIL**

February 8, 2021

Christine E. Long  
Registrar  
Ontario Energy Board  
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor  
Toronto ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Long:

**Re: Burlington Hydro Inc. (Burlington Hydro)**  
**Application for 2021 Electricity Distribution Rates**  
**Ontario Energy Board File Number: EB-2020-0007**

In accordance with Procedural Order No. 1, OEB staff advises the OEB that parties have come to an agreement regarding an issues list for Burlington Hydro's 2021 distribution rate application. The proposed issues list is attached.

Yours truly,

*Original Signed By*

Shuo Zhang  
Project Advisor – Electricity Distribution: Major Rate Applications & Consolidations

Attach.

**PROPOSED ISSUES LIST**  
**EB-2020-0007**  
**Burlington Hydro Inc. (Burlington 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
- investment in non-wires alternatives, including distributed energy resources, where appropriate
- trade-offs with OM&A spending
- government-mandated obligations
- the objectives of Burlington 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 Burlington Hydro and its customers
- the distribution system plan
- the business plan

- 1.3** Has Burlington Hydro appropriately considered measures to cost-effectively reduce distribution losses in its planning processes and included such measures where 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, conservation and demand management adjustments and resulting billing determinants appropriate, and, to the extent applicable, are they an appropriate reflection of the energy and demand requirements of Burlington Hydro's customers?
- 3.2** Are the proposed cost allocation methodology, allocations, and revenue-to-cost ratios, appropriate?
- 3.3** Are Burlington Hydro's proposals, including the proposed fixed/variable splits, for rate design appropriate?
- 3.4** Are the proposed Retail Transmission Service Rates appropriate?
- 3.5** Are the Specific Service Charges, Retail Service Charges, and Pole Attachment Charge 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 Burlington Hydro's proposals for deferral and variance accounts, including the balances in the existing accounts and their disposition, requests for discontinuation of accounts, and the continuation of existing accounts, appropriate?

## **5.0 OTHER**

- 5.1** Is the proposed effective date (i.e. May 1, 2021) for 2021 rates appropriate?
- 5.2** Has Burlington Hydro responded appropriately to the requirement to address the savings and/or other beneficial impacts resulting from its operational effectiveness initiatives as outlined in the approved EB-2013-0115 settlement proposal?