

February 8, 2021

Christine Long
Registrar
Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street
P.O. Box 2319
Toronto, Ontario
M4P 1E4

Dear Ms Long:

Re: EB-2020-0020 – Espanola Regional Hydro Distribution Corporation – Distribution Rates - 2021

I am a consultant to the Consumers Council of Canada (“Council”). I have been instructed by my client to intervene in the proceeding to consider the Application to the Ontario Energy Board (“OEB”) by Espanola Regional Hydro Distribution Corporation for distribution rates effective May 1, 2021. The Council is a public-interest entity which represents the interests of residential consumers in Ontario. The Board’s order in this proceeding will ultimately impact the rates that residential consumers pay for the distribution of electricity.

On March 15, 2020, the Council filed with the Board, pursuant to Rule 22.03 of the Ontario Energy Board’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, a document describing the Council, its mandate and objectives, membership, the constituency represented, and the types of activities the Council carries out. In addition, we provided a list of the individuals authorized to represent the Council in OEB proceedings.

The nature and scope of the Council’s intended participation in the proceeding will be the following:

1. To test and assess the Applicant’s evidence regarding its proposed rates and charges. Specifically, the Council will focus on the proposed revenue requirement, revenue forecasts, cost allocation and rate design, and the creation of, and clearance of, deferral and variance accounts. In addition, we will assess the Distribution System Plan; and
2. To participate in the various aspects of the proceeding which may include an interrogatory process, a technical conference, a settlement conference and a hearing.

The Council intends to ask for an order of costs in this proceeding. The Council has participated in many electricity proceedings over a long period of time. In all of those proceedings the Council has been recognized as being eligible for an award of costs. In the absence of an award of costs the Council would be unable to participate in this proceeding.

Copies of all correspondence related to this proceeding be sent to the following consultant:

Julie Girvan
62 Hillside Avenue East
Toronto, ON
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jgirvan@uniserve.com

Please let us know if any further information from the Council is required at this time.

Yours truly,

Julie E. Girvan

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CC: Tyler Kasubeck@ssmpuc.com
Ken Whitehurst, Consumers Council of Canada