



Grimsby Power Inc.

**Application for electricity distribution rates and other
charges beginning January 1, 2022**

**Decision on Issues List
September 20, 2021**

Grimsby Power Inc. filed a cost of service application with the Ontario Energy Board under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, seeking approval for changes to the rates that Grimsby Power charges for electricity distribution, beginning January 1, 2022. The application was accepted by the OEB as complete as of August 13, 2021.

A Notice of Hearing was issued on August 13, 2021. The OEB issued Procedural Order No. 1 which established a list of parties to this proceeding. The OEB approved Niagara Peninsula Energy Inc., the School Energy Coalition and the Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition as intervenors in this proceeding. Procedural Order No. 1 also made provision for parties to propose an issues list for the OEB's consideration.

OEB staff filed a proposed issues list which was agreed to by all parties. Further, parties requested that the OEB waive the requirement under rule 26.02(e)(ii) of the *Rules of Practice and Procedure* that the interrogatories correspond to the issues list. OEB staff advised the OEB that parties want to file interrogatories according to the exhibit numbers in the application.

OEB staff also advised that parties may wish to propose additional matters for inclusion on the issues list after the interrogatories responses are received.

Findings

The OEB has reviewed the proposed issues list and approves it for the purposes of this proceeding.

The OEB has also considered the request to file interrogatories according to exhibit numbers. The OEB approves the request for this proceeding.

The OEB may update the issues list as necessary to define the scope of the proceeding.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. The approved Issues List is attached to this Decision as Schedule A.

DATED at Toronto, **September 20, 2021**

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Christine E. Long
Registrar

SCHEDULE A
APPROVED ISSUES LIST
GRIMSBY POWER INC.
EB-2021-0027
SEPTEMBER 20, 2021

APPROVED ISSUES LIST
EB-2021-0027
Grimsby Power Incorporated (Grimsby Power)

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
- trade-offs with OM&A spending
- government-mandated obligations
- the objectives of Grimsby Power 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 Grimsby Power and its customers
- the distribution system plan
- the business plan

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, and resulting billing determinants appropriate, and, to the extent applicable, are they an appropriate reflection of the energy and demand requirements of Grimsby Power's customers?
- 3.2** Are the proposed cost allocation methodology, allocations, and revenue-to-cost ratios, appropriate?
- 3.3** Are Grimsby Power proposals, including the proposed fixed/variable splits, for rate design appropriate?
- 3.4** Are the proposed Retail Transmission Service Rates and Low Voltage 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 Grimsby Power'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. January 1, 2022) for 2022 rates appropriate?
- 5.2** Has Grimsby Power responded appropriately to the requirement to conduct an independent Asset Condition Assessment to be submitted as part of its next cost of service or Custom IR application as outlined in the approved EB-2015-0072 settlement proposal?
- 5.3** Has Grimsby Power responded appropriately to the requirement to monitor its operating performance and improvement in customer satisfaction and to report the results in its next rate application as outlined in the decision¹ in the EB-2015-0072 proceeding?
- 5.4** Are Grimsby Power's proposed modification to the definitions of the General Service < 50 kW and General Service 50 to 4,999 kW classes appropriate?

¹ EB-2015-0072, Decision and Order, August 18, 2016, page 7.