



EB-2008-0155

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND WRITTEN HEARING
RELATING TO THE RECOVERY OF SMART METER COSTS**

**Chatham-Kent Hydro Inc.
Middlesex Power Distribution Corporation**

The Ontario Energy Board received an application on July 11, 2008 under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, c. 15 (Schedule B), relating to the recovery of smart meter costs incurred or to be incurred by each of Chatham-Kent Hydro Inc. and Middlesex Power Distribution Corporation (jointly, “the Applicants”). The Board has assigned the application file number EB-2008-0155. The Board’s decision on this application may have an effect on all of the customers served by each of the Applicants.

Both Applicants incurred costs for smart meter activities from January 1, 2006 to April 30, 2007 that were reviewed in a combined hearing conducted in 2007, and their costs were approved by the Board on August 8, 2007 (proceeding EB-2007-0063).

For distribution rates effective May 1, 2008, the Board approved for each Applicant a permanent rate adder to recover in rates the costs related to authorized and approved smart meter installations to April 30, 2007 and a smart meter rate adder to provide funding for smart meter installations subsequent to that date. These rate adders are currently embedded in the monthly service charges for all metered customers, and are not affected by this application.

The Applicants have now applied to recognize the smart meter costs that each has incurred from May 1 to December 31, 2007 as fixed assets for rate-setting purposes, and have each proposed a new permanent rate adder to allow them to recover costs related to smart meters installed during this period. The Applicants have also applied for a new rate adder in relation to smart meter activities being undertaken in 2008.

How to see the Applicants' Application

Copies of the application are available for inspection at the Board's office and on its website, www.oeb.gov.on.ca; at the offices of each of Chatham-Kent Hydro Inc. and Middlesex Power Distribution Corporation; and on the website of each Applicant (addresses below).

The Applicants have requested that the Board hold in confidence certain information set out in the application. The Applicants have filed a redacted non-confidential version of the application, and it is this version that is currently on the public record. The Board will address the Applicants' request for confidential treatment early in the proceeding.

How to Participate in the Rate Proceeding

The Board intends to proceed with the Applicants' application by way of written hearing unless a party satisfies the Board that there is good reason for holding an oral hearing. If you object to a written hearing in this matter, you must provide written reasons why an oral hearing is necessary. Any objections to a written hearing must be received by the Board and copied to the Applicants at the addresses below no later than **10 days** from the publication or service date of this Notice.

The Board may order costs in this proceeding. Applications for cost eligibility must be by letter and received by the Board no later than **10 days** from the publication or service date of this Notice.

Anyone who wishes information and material from either of the Applicants that is in addition to the evidence filed with the Board and that is relevant to the hearing, shall request it by written interrogatories filed with the Board and delivered to the Applicant to whom the interrogatory is directed on or before **August 29, 2008**. Each Applicant shall file with the Board complete responses to the interrogatories directed to it and deliver them to all parties who asked interrogatories no later than **September 12, 2008**.

Anyone who wishes to make a submission on the application must file that written submission with the Board and deliver it to the Applicants by September 26, 2008. If the Applicants wish to respond to the submission(s), the written response must be filed with the Board and delivered to all parties who made submissions by **October 3, 2008**.

How to File Documents with the Board

You must file two paper copies and an electronic copy of all filings made to the Board in response to this Notice. If you already have a user ID, please submit the electronic copy of your filing through the Board's web portal at www.errr.oeb.gov.on.ca. If you do not have a user ID, please visit the "e-Filing Services" page on the Board's website at www.oeb.gov.on.ca and fill out a user ID password request. For instructions on how to submit and naming conventions please refer to the RESS Document Guidelines also found on the "e-Filing Services" webpage. If the Board's web portal is not available, the electronic copy of your filing may be submitted by e-mail at the address below. Those who do not have internet access are required to submit the electronic copy of their filing on a CD or diskette in PDF format.

In responding to this Notice, please include Board file number EB-2008-0155 in the subject line of your e-mail or at the top of your document. It is also important that you provide your name, postal address and telephone number and, if available, an e-mail address and fax number. All communications should be directed to the attention of the Board Secretary at the address below, and be received no later than **4:45 p.m.** on the required date.

Need More Information?

Further information on how to participate may be obtained by visiting the Board's website at www.oeb.gov.on.ca or by calling our Consumer Relations Centre at 1-877-632-2727.

IMPORTANT

IF YOU DO NOT FILE AN OBJECTION TO A WRITTEN HEARING OR DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE PROCEEDING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS NOTICE, THE BOARD MAY PROCEED IN YOUR ABSENCE AND YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO FURTHER NOTICE IN THIS PROCEEDING.

ADDRESSES

The Board:

Post:
Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto ON M4P 1E4
Attention: Board Secretary

Filings: www.errr.oeb.gov.on.ca
E-mail: Boardsec@oeb.gov.on.ca

Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (toll free)
Fax: 416-440-7656

The Applicants:

Chatham-Kent Hydro Inc. and
Middlesex Power Distribution
Corporation
320 Queen Street
P. O. Box 70
Chatham ON N7M 5K2

Attn : Jim Hogan

E-mail: jimhogan@ckenergy.com

Tel: 519-352-6300 ext. 277
Fax: 519-351-4059

DATED at Toronto, August 5, 2008
ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary