



Ontario
Energy
Board | Commission
de l'énergie
de l'Ontario

DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS

EB-2022-0071

HYDRO ONE NETWORKS INC.

Motion to review and vary aspects of the EB-2021-0033 Decision and Order relating to Account 1576 and Account 1592

BEFORE: **Allison Duff**
Presiding Commissioner

Michael Janigan
Commissioner

Pankaj Sardana
Commissioner

May 26, 2022

OVERVIEW

Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) filed an incentive rate-setting mechanism (IRM) application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on August 27, 2021, under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (Act) seeking approval for changes to its electricity distribution rates to be effective January 1, 2022. The application related to the legacy service areas of the former Norfolk Power Distribution Inc. (Norfolk Power), the former Haldimand County Hydro Inc. (Haldimand County Hydro) and the former Woodstock Hydro Services Inc. (Woodstock Hydro), also referred to collectively as the Acquired Utilities. The OEB assigned file number EB-2021-0033 to the proceeding.

The OEB issued a Decision and Order (Decision) on December 16, 2021, which included subsequent procedural steps related to implementing the OEB's findings by way of a draft rate order process. Amongst other things, the Decision required Hydro One to calculate new balances in two deferral and variance accounts (Account 1576 and Account 1592) and to file those balances as part of the draft rate order process. The deadline for filing the draft rate order was January 13, 2022.

On January 7, 2022, Hydro One filed a notice of motion to review and vary the Decision. Hydro One's motion included a request for an order partially staying the implementation of the Decision pertaining to Account 1576 (for the 2016 to 2022 period) and Account 1592 (for the 2018 to 2022 period), pending the outcome of the motion. Hydro One proposed that it would otherwise proceed with the draft rate order process as set out in the Decision.

The Notice of Hearing and Procedural Order stated that intervenors in the Hydro One's 2022 IRM, the 2013-14 proceedings regarding the Acquired Utilities, the 2018-2022 rebasing proceeding, and the current 2023 rebasing proceedings were also eligible to apply for an award of costs in this proceeding.

On April 7, 2022, the OEB issued its Decision and Order in which it set out the process for cost claims.

The OEB received a cost claim from the School Energy Coalition (SEC). No objection to the cost claim was received from Hydro One.

Findings

The OEB has reviewed SEC's cost claim to ensure that it is compliant with the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

The OEB finds that SEC's cost claim is reasonable and shall be reimbursed by Hydro One.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

- Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, Hydro One Networks Inc. shall immediately pay the School Energy Coalition \$14,182.63.

DATED at Toronto May 26, 2022

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Nancy Marconi
Registrar