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Sent by Email

September 7, 2022

Ontario Energy Board 2300 Yonge Street 27th Floor Toronto, ON M4P 1E4 Attention: Registrar

Dear Ms. Marconi:

Re: EB-2022-0019 – Application for an order or orders approving or fixing rates and other charges for the distribution of electricity by Niagara Power Inc. – SBUA Intervention Request Letter

We are counsel to the Small Business Utility Alliance (SBUA). Please find enclosed SBUA's Notice of Intervention requesting intervenor status and cost eligibility in the above-noted proceeding.

Yours truly,

Myriam Seers

cc. All parties in EB-2022-0019

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, c. 15, Schedule B, as amended;

AND IN THE MATTER OF an application by Canadian Niagara Power Inc. for an Order or Orders approving or fixing rates and other charges for the distribution of electricity as of January 1, 2023.

EB-2022-0019

NOTICE OF INTERVENTION OF THE SMALL BUSINESS UTILITY ALLIANCE

A. APPLICATION FOR INTERVENOR STATUS

1. Small Business Utility Alliance ("SBUA") applies for intervenor status in this proceeding pursuant to Rule 22 of the Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure.

B. SBUA

- SBUA is a group of small business ratepayers in Ontario with its members located in different cities and counties. Some of SBUA's members are located in Fort Erie, Port Colborne or Gananoque, places where Canadian Niagara Power Inc. distributes electricity.
- 3. SBUA's mandate is "to represent, protect, and promote the interests of small businesses as utility customers of electric, natural gas, water, and telecommunications services before administrative and regulatory bodies on utility and energy matters" throughout the Province of Ontario.
- 4. Also, SBUA's mandate is "to advocate for the broader interests of the small business community as a whole and not the specific or direct financial interests of individual small businesses or the members of our alliance".

C. NATURE AND SCOPE OF SBUA'S INTERVENTION

- 5. SBUA intends to participate in any pre-hearing procedures, including interrogatories or technical conferences, and settlement conferences. Also, SBUA intends to participate in any oral or written hearings, oral or written submissions, as well as any other parts of the process.
- 6. SBUA intends to be an active participant in this proceeding and will act responsibly in the proceeding by submitting evidence, argument or interrogatories, or by cross-examining a witness. The participation will include but not limited to the following:
 - a. The appropriateness and reasonableness of the distribution rates proposed by Canadian Niagara Power Inc.
 - b. The appropriateness and reasonableness of the bill impacts, as well as the price cap adjustment proposed by Elexicon Energy Inc.; and
 - c. Generally, to represent the interests of the Small Business.
- 7. Furthermore, SBUA will act responsibly to coordinate its participation with other parties to the extent they seek similar objectives.

D. COSTS

8. SBUA intends to apply for recovery of its costs reasonably incurred in the course of its intervention in this proceeding.

E. NATURE OF HEARING REQUESTED

9. Until interrogatories have been answered, it is premature to assess whether a written or an oral hearing is more appropriate in this proceeding.

F. SBUA'S REPRESENTATIVES

10. SBUA requests that further communications with respect to this proceeding be sent to the following:

Savoie Laporte LLP

Bay Adelaide Centre West 333 Bay Street, Suite 900 Toronto ON M5H 2R2

Attention: Myriam Seers, Ryan Pistorius, and Sebastian Melo Telephone: +1 416 886 7154 Emails: <u>myriam.seers@savoielaporte.com</u> <u>ryan.pistorius@savoielaporte.com</u> <u>sebastian.melo@savoielaporte.com</u>

As well as service (for electronic communications only) on: James M. Birkelund, Counsel Energy and Environmental Law Group james@birkelundlaw.com

SBUA respectfully requests your acceptance of this intervention and confirmation that it will be eligible for costs.

Submitted on behalf of the Small Business Utility Alliance this September 7, 2022.