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August 18, 2008

E-MAIL

Ms. Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
27th Floor
2300 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON
M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

Re: Board File No. EB – 2007– 0791
OPA Fees Review
Cost Awards
Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC)

Our review of the documentation submitted to support the VECC cost award indicates that there was, inadvertently, an inconsistency in the materials submitted. Specifically, Appendix “B” Form 1 indicates a claimed hourly rate of \$330. while indicating that the analyst/consultant, James Wightman, had 19 “Years of Relevant Experience” as opposed to the 20⁺ years required to support the \$330. rate.

The inconsistency, however, is the result of an administrative oversight in respect of the “Years of Experience” submitted on Appendix “B” Form 1, and not in respect of the claimed rate: the information submitted should have indicated 20⁺ years of relevant experience, consistent with the hourly rate as claimed.

The oversight arose as a result of reviewing the detailed hourly breakdown on the materials submitted but failing to notice that the years of experience had been mechanically copied from documentation supplied to the Board in an earlier claim.

Please note that, in support of Mr. Wightman’s claimed 20⁺ years of experience, as his CV indicates (copy attached), he was employed as contract faculty by the Department of Economics, York University, beginning in January 1987, while he

was concurrently pursuing doctoral studies in natural resource activities at the university. Mr. Wightman continued teaching at York from 1987, through 1994 (when he received his PhD), and sessionally thereafter up until December 2004, having been employed as a course director for almost 60 economics offerings.

In June 1998, Mr. Wightman began employment at the Ontario Energy Board as a member of the rates staff group and remained at the Board up to June 2005.

In June 2005, he left the Board to pursue a consulting opportunity with Econalysis Consulting Services (ECS) where he is currently employed.

In light of the preceding, we submit that the appropriate relevant experience for Mr. Wightman was 20 years at January 2007 and was 21 years at January 2008 and that the error was in the submission of an incorrect number of years of experience.

We respectfully request that the Board review this cost award and apologize for any inconvenience due to this oversight.

Thank you.

Yours truly,

Original signed

Michael Buonaguro
Counsel for VECC
Encl.

Econalysis Consulting Services
(ECS)

James Wightman

James Wightman brings seven years experience in the regulation of the energy sector to ECS. Prior to joining ECS, James gained extensive regulatory experience and managed gas rate cases and electricity cases at the Ontario Energy Board.

At ECS, James provides pre-hearing, hearing, and submissions support to intervenors in energy and auto insurance proceedings and assists public interest clients in responding to applications to regulatory boards.

James has taught over 50 courses at York University, Algoma University, and at community colleges in microeconomics, macroeconomics, international trade, project evaluation, statistics, and mathematics over an eighteen-year period (1987-2004).

James holds a BA in Economics/Mathematics, an MA in Economics, and a PhD in Economics specializing in Natural Resource Economics.

EXPERIENCE

Econalysis Consulting Services Consultant, 2005-Present

- Provided consulting services, including analysis of pre-filed evidence, issue identification, informational requests, evidentiary support, hearing support, and submissions support to public interest clients based in Ontario, Manitoba, and British Columbia.
- Prepared evidence and testified with Dr. Roger Higgin (Econalysis Consulting Services) in the Phase II Gazifere 2006 Revenue Requirement and Incentive Regulation Proposal (Docket No. R-3587) Proceeding before the Regie
- Automobile Insurance
 - Manitoba Public Insurance 2006 General Rates Application
 - Manitoba Public Insurance 2007 General Rates Application
 - Manitoba Public Insurance 2008 General Rates Application
- Natural Gas
 - Terasen Gas Vancouver Island Revenue Requirement 2006-07
 - Terasen Gas Inc. Southern Crossing Pipeline and Inland Pacific Connector
 - Greenfield Energy Centre LP Bypass Application
 - Ontario Energy Board Natural Gas Electricity Interface Review

- Union Gas Limited 2006 rates
- Ontario Energy Board Minimum Filing Requirements Consultative
- Terasen Gas Inc. 2005 Annual Review
- Ontario Energy Board Service Quality Requirements Consultative
- Union Gas Limited Transactional Services Methodology
- Terasen Gas Inc./Terasen Gas Vancouver Island Return on Equity
- Terasen Gas Whistler Pipeline and Conversion from Propane
- PNG West 2006 Revenue Requirement
- PNG North East 2006 Revenue Requirement
- Union Gas Limited 2007 Rates
- Union Gas Limited 2005 Deferral Account and Earnings Sharing Disposition
- Union Gas Limited Disposition of Proceeds from 2004 Cushion Gas Sale
- Terasen Gas Inc. Residential Commodity Unbundling
- Ontario Energy Board Natural Gas and Electricity Interface Review
- Terasen Gas Inc. Residential Commodity Unbundling Proceeding
- Gazifere 2007 Revenue Requirement and Incentive Regulation Proposal
- Stittco Utilities Manitoba Limited 2007 Interim Rates and Deregulation
- Unocal-Aitken Creek Storage Facility Exemption
- Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. 2007 Rates
- Multi-year Incentive Regulation Mechanism for Enbridge Gas Distribution and Union Gas Limited for 2008 and beyond
- Terasen Gas Vancouver Island 2006/07 Revenue Requirement
- Terasen Gas Incorporated and Terasen Gas Vancouver Island 2008 Extension Proposals
- Pacific Northern Gas North East 2007 Revenue Requirements
- Pacific Northern Gas West 2007 Revenue Requirements
- Fortis Acquisition of Terasen Inc. from KMI
- Union Gas Limited 2006 Deferral Account and Earnings Sharing Disposition
- Gaz Metropolitan 2008 Proposed Rate Design Changes (R-3630)
- Terasen Gas Inc./Terasen Gas Vancouver Island Mt. Hayes LNG Storage Facility CPCN
- Petition to LGIC re Ontario Energy Board NGEIR Decision on Storage
- Terasen Gas Inc./Terasen Gas Vancouver Island System Extension and Customer Connection Policies Review
- Ontario Energy Board Proceeding on Natural Gas Storage Allocation Policies post-NGEIR
- Terasen Gas Vancouver Island Long-Term Service Arrangements with BC Hydro
- Pacific Northern Gas North East 2008 Revenue Requirements
- Pacific Northern Gas West 2008 Revenue Requirements
- Terasen Gas Inc. 2008 Revenue Requirement Review
- Terasen Gas Vancouver Island 2007 Settlement Update/2008 Revenue Requirement Review

- Electricity
 - Independent Electricity System Operator 2006 Fees
 - Independent Electricity System Operator 2007 Fees

Ontario Energy Board Project Advisor, 2004-2005

- Provided analytical expertise and case management services in regulatory proceedings by scheduling proceedings, retaining facilitators, drafting regulatory instruments (procedural orders, rate orders, interim orders, notices) and interrogatories, briefing staff counsel, preparing briefing notes, and assisting Board panels in drafting Board decisions and orders.
- Natural Gas
 - Union Gas 2005 Rates (EB-2005-0211), disposition of 2004 deferral account balances, 2003 earnings sharing, and 2005 DSM plan
 - Union Gas Motion to Vary (EB-2005-0189) Board's 2005 earnings sharing decision
 - Union Gas Quarterly Rate Adjustment Mechanism proceedings for July 1, 2005 (EB-2005-0290), April 1, 2005 (EB-2005-0232), January 1, 2005 (EB-2004-0499), October 1, 2004 (EB-2004-0416), and July 1, 2004 (EB-2004-0267)
 - Union Gas response to Board's M16 directive, transportation rates for embedded storage operators (EB-2004-0542)
 - Union Gas 2004 Rates (RP-2003-0063), managed cost of service rebasing case including analysis and statistical material for cross-examination on applicant's weather normalization proposal
 - Enbridge Gas Distribution 2006 Rates (EB-2005-0001), provided analytical support to team, drafted interrogatories

Rates Advisor, 2000-2004

- Case Manager for all of Union's main rates cases, NRG rates case, pooled transmission rates case, electricity distribution rates cases
- Proceeding scheduling, drafting regulatory instruments, analysis of evidence, preparation of briefing materials, assistance to panel in drafting decisions
- Natural Gas
 - Union Gas 2003 Rates (RP-2002-0130), implementing rates for final year of trial PBR plan during Customer Review Process
 - Union Gas 2001-2002 Rates (RP-2001-0029), implementing rates for first two years of trial PBR plan during Customer Review Process

- Union Gas 2000-2003 Rates, transitional rates for 2000 and for 2001-2003 rates under the first comprehensive gas PBR plan approved by Board; conducted the cross-examination of Union's and intervenors' expert PBR panels
- Case Manager, Natural Resource Gas 2000 Rates (RP-1999-0031)
- Electricity
 - Project Lead for pooled wholesale transmission rates project (RP-1999-0044/RP-2001-0034/RP-2001-0035/RP-2001-0036) to set rates for Hydro One, Great Lakes Power, Canadian Niagara, and Five Nations Energy
 - Great Lakes Power, load forecast and revenue requirement for pooled rates (RP-2001-0035)
 - Kashechewan 2001 Interim Distribution Rates and 2002 Pre-Market Opening Rates, (RP-2001-0053)
 - Fort Albany Interim Distribution Rates (EB-2001-0089)

Regulatory Officer, 1998-2000

- Member of Union Gas 1999 Rates (EBRO 499) team, providing analysis of prefiled evidence, drafting interrogatories
- Analysis of franchise renewal applications, gas storage applications

York University

Course Director, 1987-2004

- Delivered over 50 semester courses in introductory microeconomics, introductory macroeconomics, intermediate microeconomics, intermediate macroeconomics, international trade theory, project appraisal, and mathematics

EDUCATION

PhD, Economics

York University, Natural Resource Economics, 1994

MA, Economics

York University, 1987

Honours BA, Economics and Mathematics

York University, 1985

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