January 25, 2022

Ms. Nancy Marconi
Registrar
Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street
P.O. Box 2319
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Re: Bluewater Power Distribution Corporation – 2023 Cost of Service Application
AMPCO Interrogatories
Board File No. EB-2022-0016

Dear Ms. Marconi:

Attached please find AMPCO's interrogatories in the above proceeding.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require further information.

Best Regards,

Colin Anderson
President

Copy to: Bluewater Power Distribution Corporation

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EB-2022-0016
Bluewater Power Distribution Corporation
Application for electricity distribution rates beginning
May 1, 2023

AMPCO Interrogatories January 25, 2023

AMPCO-1

Exhibit 1 Appendix 1 p. 12

The 2023 Budget contains the following estimated inflationary increases over 2022 for Non-Union represented labour – 4%.

Please explain the basis for the 4% increase.

AMPCO-2

Ref: DSP p. 44-48

a) Please provide SAIDI & SAIFI values for the years 2017 to 2022 excluding Loss of Supply, Major Events and Scheduled Outages.

b) Please provide all interruptions excluding Loss of Supply, Major Events and Scheduled Outages for the years 2017 to 2022.

c) Please provide all customer interruptions excluding Loss of Supply, Major Events and Scheduled Outages for the years 2017 to 2022.

d) Please provide all customer interruption hours excluding Loss of Supply, Major Events and Scheduled Outages for the years 2017 to 2022.

e) Please provide a breakdown of interruptions and customer interruption hours by cause code for the years 2017 to 2022.

f) Please provide a further breakdown of 5-Defective Equipment by sub-cause code for the years 2017 to 2022.

g) Please provide a further breakdown of 1-Scheduled Outage by sub-cause code for the years 2017 to 2022.

AMPCO-3

Ref: DSP p. 73 Table 24

Please discuss any changes in Bluewater Power's Asset Replacement Strategy since it last rebased.

AMPCO-4

Ref: Appendix 2-AA

Please add a column to reflect 2022 actuals and provide the excel spreadsheet.

AMPCO-5

Ref: DSP Appendix A p. 11

Please recast Table 2 to reflect the total quantity of assets and percentage replaced by asset category over the period 2013 to 2022.

AMPCO-6

Ref: DSP Appendix A p. 13

Please recast Table 3 to reflect Bluewater Power's current 5-year asset replacement plan by asset category for each of the years 2023 to 2027.

AMPCO-7

Ref: DSP Appendix A p. 26

Please provide Bluewater Power's response to Kinectric's Asset Condition Assessment recommendations.

AMPCO-8

Ref: DSP
Please provide failure data for the following assets:

| Asset Category | 2017 # Failures | 2018 # failures | 2019 # Failures | 2020 # Failures | 2021 # Failures | 2022 # Failures |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Transformers | | | | | | |
| Circuit Breakers | | | | | | |
| Switchgear | | | | | | |
| Pole Top Transformers | | | | | | |
| Wood Poles | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| U/G Cables – XLPE Direct Buried | | | | | | |
| U/G Cables – XLPE in Duct | | | | | | |

AMPCO-9

Ref: DSP Appendix B p.32-33

Bluewater Power indicates that if variances result in overspending of the budget, then approval from the BWP Board of Director's must be first obtained.

For the period 2017 to 2022, please provide details of the Capital & OM&A variances that required Board of Director approval.

AMPCO-10

Ref: DSP Appendix E p.15

Table 4-1 shows the Asset Condition Evaluation Parameters for each category of asset.

a) For each category of asset, please explain the basis for the age and mileage parameters limits.

b) For each category of asset, please provide a breakdown of the condition parameters and limits used.

c) For the Heavy Duty Boom truck, please provide the limits for the engine and PTO hours and Frequency of Use.

d) Please confirm Bluewater Power's philosophy with respect to vehicle management is to run until failure.

AMPCO-11

Ref: DSP Appendix E p.15

For each of the fleet assets proposed to be replaced over the 2022 to 2027 period, please complete the following table and add to the table any additional parameters considered for replacement:

| Forecast Fleet Replacement | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Vehicle # | Year to be replaced | Vehicle Category | Age | Condition | Mileage | Engine Hours | Power Take Off Hours | Frequency of Use | Maintenance Costs |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |

AMPCO-12

Ref: DSP Appendix E p.16

For each proposed fleet replacement in 2022 and 2023 as shown in Table 5-2, please provide the expected delivery date.

AMPCO-13

Ref: DSP Appendix F UT11, p. 24

a) In 2023, Bluewater indicates approximately 10% of the budget is estimated for 138 new residential connections. Please provide the number of residential connections for the years 2017 to 2022 and corresponding costs for each year.

b) Please explain the increase in capital contributions in 2022 and 2023.

AMPCO-14

Ref: Appendix 2-AA UT5 & UT16

Projects UT5 & UT16 reflect work to convert 8 kV facilities to the 27.6 kV system. Bluewater budgets for upgrades in Petrolia and Watford, which are municipalities within its service territory.

a) UT5: Please explain why the budget for Petrolia has increased from an average of $116,309 for the years 2017 to 2021 to $208,000 for 2023.

b) UT16: Please explain why the budget for Watford has increased from an average of $41,360 for the years 2017 to 2021 to $208,000 for 2023.

AMPCO-15

Ref: Appendix 2-AA UT 7

Bluewater has a regular program of converting 4 kV facilities to the 27.6 kV system.

Please explain why the budget for UT7 has increased from an average of $113,752 for the years 2017 to 2021 to $200,000 in 2020 and 210,000 in 2023.

AMPCO-16

Ref: Appendix 2-AA UT21 & UT22

Projects UT21 & UT 22 reflect 27.6 kV Feeder Extensions and 8 kV Load Conversion.

a) Please explain the need to ramp up spending on project UT21 for 27.6 kV Feeder Extensions to $250,000 in 2022 and $372,500 in 2023.

b) Please explain the need to ramp up spending on project UT22 for 8 kV Load Conversion to $372,500 in 2023.

AMPCO-17

Ref: Appendix 2-AA UT72 & UT74

Project U72 ($262,500 in 2023) also converts 4.8kV facilities to the 16kV/27.6kV system.
Project UT74 ($817,500 in 2023) is an additional 4 kV System Upgrade.

Please rank projects UT5, UT16, UT21, UT22, UT7, UT72 and UT74 in order of priority.

AMPCO-18

Ref: Appendix 2-AA UT31

a) Please provide the number of pad mount transformers replaced for each of the years 2017 to 2022.

b) Please provide the forecast number of padmount transformers to be replaced for each of the years 2023 to 2027.

AMPCO-19

Ref: Appendix 2-AA Miscellaneous

The average Miscellaneous System renewal spend for the period 2017 to 2021 is $92,336.

Please explain the increase in 2022 and 2023 to $195,000 and $217,000, respectively.

AMPCO-20

Ref: Appendix F UT15

a) Please provide the number of poles replaced for each of the years 2017 to 2022.

b) Please provide the forecast poles to be replaced for each of the years 2023 to 2027.

AMPCO-21

Ref: Appendix F UT26

a) Please provide the km of underground cable replaced by cable type for each of the years 2017 to 2022 and the corresponding costs per year by cable type.

b) Please provide the forecast underground cable by cable type to be replaced for each of the years 2023 to 2027.

AMPCO-22

Ref: Appendix F IT 35

a) Please provide the 10-year road map/detailed business case for Project IT35 - Business Technology Improvements.

b) Please provide the historical budget vs. actual spending on the project.

c) Please explain any variance in historical costs (budget vs. actuals).

d) Please explain the difference between Projects IT35 and IT4 Internal Technology Development.

AMPCO-23

Ref: DSP Appendix F

Bluewater Power indicates annual operating and maintenance cost may be reduced due to fewer outages as related to newer installed infrastructure.

Please provide the estimated savings in annual operating and maintenance costs for the period 2023 to 2027.

AMPCO-24

Ref: Appendix 2-K

Please make the following adjustments to Appendix 2-K and provide a revised excel spreadsheet:

a) Provide a breakdown of Management and Non-management employees.

b) Provide a breakdown of Salary and Wages to show salary, overtime and incentive pay separately.

c) Please add 2022 Actuals to Appendix 2-K.

AMPCO-25

Ref: Exhibit 4 p. 65

a) Please provide the vegetation management costs (budget vs. actuals) for the years 2013 to 2022.

b) Please provide Bluewater Power's Tree Trimming Area Map that reflects its 4-year cycle.

c) With respect to the 4-year cycle, please provide the planned tree trimming schedule compared to actuals for the years 2017 to 2022.

d) With respect to the 4-year cycle, please provide the planned tree trimming schedule for the years 2023 to 2027.

e) Please provide Bluewater Power's Vegetation Management forecast vs. actual accomplishments for the years 2017 to 2022 and the forecast for 2023.

AMPCO-26

Ref: Exhibit 4 p. 105

Please provide a list of current position vacancies.

AMPCO-27

Ref: Exhibit 8 p. 3

Please provide a table that sets out the current Fixed/Variable proportion by customer class compared to the proposed for 2023.

AMPCO-28

Ref: Exhibit 8 p.7

For the Large Use class, please provide the 2023 variable rate if the 2023 fixed rate remains at the current value of $28,120.73. Show the calculation.