EB-2024-0038



Lakefront Utilities Inc.

Application for electricity distribution rates and other charges effective January 1, 2025

PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 3 April 24, 2025

Lakefront Utilities filed an incentive rate-setting mechanism (IRM) application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on September 9, 2024, under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, *1998*, seeking approval for changes to the rates that Lakefront Utilities charges for electricity distribution, starting January 1, 2025. Lakefront Utilities also applied for incremental capital funding for its Victoria Street Substation project. Lakefront Utilities also requested disposition of its 2016 to 2023 Group 1 variance account balances on an interim basis, with the understanding that final disposition would be completed in 2025 for mid-year implementation.

A Decision and Order on Phase 1 was issued on March 27, 2025. This Procedural Order No. 3 commences Phase 2 of the application.

Phase 2 of Proceeding

In its Decision and Order issued on March 27, 2025, the OEB addressed Lakefront Utilities' request for incremental capital funding for its Victoria Street Substation project. The OEB noted that the determination of matters related to the rate change and disposition of the 2016 to 2023 Group 1 variance account balances would be addressed in a subsequent phase of the proceeding. Specifically, the OEB ordered Lakefront Utilities to provide an updated Rate Generator Model reflecting the Decision and Order. The OEB noted that, once the updated Rate Generator Model is filed, procedural steps for addressing the rate change and disposition of 2016 to 2023 Group 1 variance account balances would be established.

On April 3, 2025, Lakefront Utilities filed its updated Rate Generator Model to reflect the findings of the OEB's Phase 1 Decision and Order. In Phase 2, the OEB will consider the disposition of the 2016 to 2023 Group 1 variance account balances. Lakefront Utilities should file updated evidence related to the 2016 to 2023 Group 1 deferral and variance accounts. Provision is being made for discovery and a written hearing to address these matters.

Administrative Matters

All intervenors¹ in Phase 1 are accepted as intervenors in Phase 2 and will be eligible for cost awards.

In Phase 2, parties may refer to any evidence filed in Phase 1.

The OEB is making provision for the following related to this proceeding. Further procedural orders may be issued by the OEB.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

- 1. Lakefront Utilities shall file any updated evidence related to the 2016 to 2023 Group 1 deferral and variance accounts by **April 28, 2025.**
- 2. OEB staff and intervenors shall request any relevant information and documentation from Lakefront Utilities that is in addition to the evidence already filed, by written interrogatories filed with the OEB and served on Lakefront Utilities, by **May 5, 2025**.
- 3. Lakefront Utilities shall file with the OEB complete written responses to the interrogatories and serve them on all parties by **May 20, 2025**.
- 4. Any written submissions by OEB staff and intervenors shall be filed with OEB and served on Lakefront Utilities by **June 3**, **2025**.
- 5. Lakefront Utilities may file a written reply submission with the OEB and serve it on all parties by **June 17, 2025**.

Parties are responsible for ensuring that any documents they file with the OEB, such as applicant and intervenor evidence, interrogatories and responses to interrogatories or any other type of document, **do not include personal information** (as that phrase is defined in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*), unless filed in accordance with rule 9A of the OEB's <u>Rules of Practice and Procedure</u>.

Please quote file number, **EB-2024-0038** for all materials filed and submit them in searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the <u>OEB's online</u> filing portal.

¹ The Coalition of Concerned Manufacturers and Businesses of Canada and Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition were approved as cost eligible intervenors in Phase 1 of this proceeding.

- Filings should clearly state the sender's name, postal address, telephone number and e-mail address.
- Please use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the <u>Regulatory Electronic Submission System (RESS)</u> <u>Document Guidelines</u> found at the <u>File documents online page</u> on the OEB's website.
- Parties are encouraged to use RESS. Those who have not yet <u>set up an</u> <u>account</u>, or require assistance using the online filing portal can contact <u>registrar@oeb.ca</u> for assistance.

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Registrar and be received by end of business, 4:45 p.m., on the required date.

With respect to distribution lists for all electronic correspondence and materials related to this proceeding, parties must include the Case Manager, Harshleen Kaur at <u>Harshleen.Kaur@oeb.ca</u> and OEB Counsel, James Sidlofsky at <u>James.Sidlofsky@oeb.ca</u>.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca Tel: 1-877-632-2727 (Toll free)

DATED at Toronto, April 24, 2025

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Nancy Marconi Registrar