

# FINAL RATE ORDER

EB-2024-0008

## ATIKOKAN HYDRO INC.

Application for electricity distribution rates and other charges beginning May 1, 2025

**BEFORE: Pankaj Sardana** 

Presiding Commissioner

**April 29, 2025** 



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## 1 INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

This is the Final Rate Order on an application filed by Atikokan Hydro Inc. (Atikokan Hydro) to change its electricity distribution rates as of May 1, 2025.

The OEB has reviewed Atikokan Hydro's revised Draft Rate Order (DRO), proposed Tariff of Rates and Charges, and reply comments on its DRO and is satisfied that they accurately reflect the Decision and Order issued on March 27, 2025.<sup>1</sup>

As a result of this Final Rate Order, it is estimated that for a typical residential customer with monthly consumption of 750 kWh, the total bill will decrease by \$7.25 per month, or -5.07%, before taxes and the Ontario Electricity Rebate.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> EB-2024-0008, <u>Decision and Order</u>, March 27, 2025.

## **2 PROCESS AND CONTEXT**

On March 27, 2025, the OEB issued its Decision and Order accepting the settlement proposal filed by Atikokan Hydro and Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC).<sup>2</sup> In its Decision and Order, the OEB approved Atikokan Hydro's settlement proposal and made provision for a DRO process such that Atikokan Hydro may, if able, implement the outcomes of the OEB's decision in the generic Cost of Capital proceeding.<sup>3</sup> The OEB directed that the filing of any DRO shall also include customer rate impacts and detailed information in support of the calculation of final rates.

The Decision and Order allowed for comments on the DRO by OEB staff and VECC, and reply comments by Atikokan Hydro.

On March 31, 2025, Atikokan filed a letter with the OEB indicating its intent to file a DRO. On April 7, 2025, Atikokan Hydro filed its DRO and proposed Tariff of Rates and Charges.<sup>4</sup>

On April 14, 2025, OEB staff filed comments<sup>5</sup> on the DRO and commented that, subject to certain updates in its reply comments, Atikokan Hydro had accurately updated the cost of capital parameters and Tariff of Rates and Charges. In its comments, OEB staff indicated that due to the updated cost of capital parameters, the revenue requirement, cost allocation, revenue-to-cost ratios, and fixed-variable splits also required updating. VECC also filed comments on the DRO on April 14, 2025, commenting that, subject to certain updates, Atikokan Hydro had appropriately implemented the OEB's updated cost of capital parameters.

Atikokan Hydro filed its reply comments on April 22, 2025, including updated supporting excel models and an updated Tariff of Rates and Charges.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> EB-2024-0008, Decision and Order, March 27, 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> EB-2024-0063, Decision and Order, March 27, 2025

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> EB-2024-0008, <u>Draft Rate Order</u>, April 7, 2025

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> EB-2024-0008, OEB Staff Comments, April 14, 2025

## 3 FINDINGS

The OEB has reviewed the reply comments of Atikokan Hydro, including updated excel models and updated Tariffs of Rates and Charges, effective January 1, 2025, with an implementation date of May 1, 2025. The OEB approves the Tariff of Rates and Charges in Schedule A.

The OEB has also made provisions in this Final Rate Order for VECC to file its cost claims, and for Atikokan Hydro to review and file any objections to the cost claims, as well as for VECC to respond to any objections to its cost claims.

## 4 ORDER

#### THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

- 1. The Tariff of Rates and Charges set out in Schedule A, is approved, effective May 1 1, 2025. The Tariff of Rates and Charges will apply to electricity consumed or estimated to have been consumed on and after May 1, 2025. Atikokan Hydro Inc. shall notify its customers of the rate changes no later than the delivery of the first bill reflecting the new rates.
- 2. VECC shall submit its cost claims with the OEB and forward a copy to Atikokan Hydro Inc. by **May 6, 2025.**
- 3. Atikokan Hydro Inc. shall file with the OEB and forward to VECC any objections to the claimed costs by **May 13, 2025.**
- 4. Should Atikokan Hydro Inc. object to VECC's cost claims, VECC shall file with the OEB and forward to Atikokan Hydro Inc. its responses to any objections for cost claims by **May 20, 2025.**
- 5. Atikokan Hydro Inc. shall pay the OEB's costs incidental to this proceeding upon receipt of the OEB's invoice.

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 Rules of Practice and Procedure.

Please quote file number **EB-2024-0008** for all materials filed and submit them in searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the <u>OEB's online filing portal</u>.

- 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 account</u>, or require assistance using the online filing portal can contact registrar@oeb.ca for assistance.
- Cost claims are filed through the OEB's online filing portal. Please visit the <u>File documents online page</u> of the OEB's website for more information. All participants shall download a copy of their submitted cost claim and serve it on all required parties as per the <u>Practice Direction on Cost Awards</u>.

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, Petar Prazic at <a href="mailto:Petar.Prazic@oeb.ca">Petar.Prazic@oeb.ca</a> and OEB Counsel, Lawren Murray at <a href="mailto:Lawren.Murray@oeb.ca">Lawren.Murray@oeb.ca</a>.

**DATED** at Toronto, April 29, 2025

#### ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Nancy Marconi Registrar

# SCHEDULE A TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES FINAL RATE ORDER ATIKOKAN HYDRO INC. EB-2024-0008 APRIL 29, 2025

#### Effective and Implementation Date May 1, 2025

This schedule supersedes and replaces all previously approved schedules of Rates, Charges and Loss Factors

EB-2024-0008

#### RESIDENTIAL SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification applies to an account taking electricity at 750 volts or less where the electricity is used exclusively in a separate metered living accommodation. Customers shall be residing in single-dwelling units that consist of a detached house or one unit of a semi-detached, duplex, triplex or quadruplex house, with a residential zoning. Separately metered dwellings within a town house complex or apartment building also qualify as residential customers. All customers are single-phase. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

#### **APPLICATION**

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of the Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Ontario Energy Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

No rates and charges for the distribution of electricity and charges to meet the costs of any work or service done or furnished for the purpose of the distribution of electricity shall be made except as permitted by this schedule, unless required by the Distributor's Licence or a Code or Order of the Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Ontario Energy Board, or as specified herein.

Unless specifically noted, this schedule does not contain any charges for the electricity commodity, be it under the Regulated Price Plan, a contract with a retailer or the wholesale market price, as applicable. In addition, the charges in the MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component of this schedule do not apply to a customer that is an embedded wholesale market participant.

It should be noted that this schedule does not list any charges, assessments, or credits that are required by law to be invoiced by a distributor and that are not subject to Ontario Energy Board approval, such as the Global Adjustment and the HST.

Service Charge	\$	55.28
Rate Rider for Disposition of Group 2 Deferral/Variance Accounts (2025)		
- effective until April 30, 2027	\$	(3.75)
Smart Metering Entity Charge - effective until December 31, 2027	\$	0.42
Rate Rider for Disposition of Group 1 Deferral/Variance Accounts (2025)		
- effective until April 30, 2026	\$/kWh	(0.0030)
Rate Rider for Dispositon of Global Adjustment Account (2025)		
Applicable only for Non-RPP Customers - effective until April 30, 2026	\$/kWh	0.0066
Rate Rider for Disposition of CBR Class B Account (2025) - effective until April 30, 2026	\$/kWh	0.0001
Retail Transmission Rate - Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0117
Retail Transmission Rate - Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0069
MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component		
Wholesale Market Service Rate (WMS) - not including CBR	\$/kWh	0.0041
Capacity Based Recovery (CBR) - Applicable for Class B Customers	\$/kWh	0.0004
Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge (RRRP)	\$/kWh	0.0015
Standard Supply Service - Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

#### Effective and Implementation Date May 1, 2025

This schedule supersedes and replaces all previously approved schedules of Rates, Charges and Loss Factors

EB-2024-0008

#### **GENERAL SERVICE LESS THAN 50 KW SERVICE CLASSIFICATION**

This classification applies to a non-residential account taking electricity at 750 volts or less whose average monthly maximum demand is less than, or is forecast to be less than, 50 kW. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

#### **APPLICATION**

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of the Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Ontario Energy Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

No rates and charges for the distribution of electricity and charges to meet the costs of any work or service done or furnished for the purpose of the distribution of electricity shall be made except as permitted by this schedule, unless required by the Distributor's Licence or a Code or Order of the Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Ontario Energy Board, or as specified herein.

Unless specifically noted, this schedule does not contain any charges for the electricity commodity, be it under the Regulated Price Plan, a contract with a retailer or the wholesale market price, as applicable. In addition, the charges in the MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component of this schedule do not apply to a customer that is an embedded wholesale market participant.

It should be noted that this schedule does not list any charges, assessments, or credits that are required by law to be invoiced by a distributor and that are not subject to Ontario Energy Board approval, such as the Global Adjustment and the HST.

Service Charge	\$	89.51
Smart Metering Entity Charge - effective until December 31, 2027	\$	0.42
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0059
Rate Rider for Disposition of Group 1 Deferral/Variance Accounts (2025) - effective until April 30, 2026	\$/kWh	(0.0027)
Rate Rider for Disposition of Group 2 Deferral/Variance Accounts (2025) - effective until April 30, 2027 Rate Rider for Disposition of Global Adjustment Account (2025) - effective until April 30, 2026	\$/kWh	(0.0041)
Applicable only for Non-RPP Customers	\$/kWh	0.0066
Rate Rider for Disposition of CBR Class B Account (2025) - effective until April 30, 2026	\$/kWh	0.0001
Retail Transmission Rate - Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0102
Retail Transmission Rate - Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0057
MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component		
Wholesale Market Service Rate (WMS) - not including CBR	\$/kWh	0.0041
Capacity Based Recovery (CBR) - Applicable for Class B Customers	\$/kWh	0.0004
Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge (RRRP)	\$/kWh	0.0015
Standard Supply Service - Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

#### Effective and Implementation Date May 1, 2025

This schedule supersedes and replaces all previously approved schedules of Rates, Charges and Loss Factors

EB-2024-0008

#### **GENERAL SERVICE 50 TO 4,999 KW SERVICE CLASSIFICATION**

This classification applies to a non residential account whose average monthly maximum demand used for billing purposes is equal to or greater than, or is forecast to be equal to or greater than, 50kW but less than 5,000kW. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

#### **APPLICATION**

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of the Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Ontario Energy Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

No rates and charges for the distribution of electricity and charges to meet the costs of any work or service done or furnished for the purpose of the distribution of electricity shall be made except as permitted by this schedule, unless required by the Distributor's Licence or a Code or Order of the Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Ontario Energy Board, or as specified herein.

Unless specifically noted, this schedule does not contain any charges for the electricity commodity, be it under the Regulated Price Plan, a contract with a retailer or the wholesale market price, as applicable. In addition, the charges in the MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component of this schedule do not apply to a customer that is an embedded wholesale market participant.

If included in the following listing of monthly rates and charges, the rate rider for the disposition of WMS - Sub-account CBR Class B is not applicable to wholesale market participants (WMP), customers that transitioned between Class A and Class B during the variance account accumulation period, or to customers that were in Class A for the entire period. Customers who transitioned are to be charged or refunded their share of the variance disposed through customer specific billing adjustments. This rate rider is to be consistently applied for the entire period to the sunset date of the rate rider. In addition, this rate rider is applicable to all new Class B customers.

If included in the following listing of monthly rates and charges, the rate rider for the disposition of Global Adjustment is only applicable to non-RPP Class B customers. It is not applicable to wholesale market participants (WMP), customers that transitioned between Class A and Class B during the variance account accumulation period, or to customers that were in Class A for the entire period. Customers who transitioned are to be charged or refunded their share of the variance disposed through customer specific billing adjustments. This rate rider is to be consistently applied for the entire period to the sunset date of the rate rider. In addition, this rate rider is applicable to all new non-RPP Class B customers.

It should be noted that this schedule does not list any charges, assessments, or credits that are required by law to be invoiced by a distributor and that are not subject to Ontario Energy Board approval, such as the Global Adjustment and the HST.

Service Charge	\$	661.90
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	4.4718
Rate Rider for Disposition of Group 1 Deferral/Variance Accounts (2025) - effective until April 30, 2026	\$/kW	(0.8958)
Rate Rider for Disposition of Group 2 Deferral/Variance Accounts (2025) - effective until April 30, 2027	\$/kW	(0.5595)
Rate Rider for Dispositon of Global Adjustment Account (2025) - effective until April 30, 2026 Applicable only for Non-RPP Customers	\$/kWh	0.0066
Rate Rider for Disposition of CBR Class B Account (2025) - effective until April 30, 2026	\$/kW	0.0563
Retail Transmission Rate - Network Service Rate	\$/kW	4.1630
Retail Transmission Rate - Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kW	2.3735
Retail Transmission Rate - Network Service Rate - Interval Metered	\$/kW	4.4167
Retail Transmission Rate - Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate - Interval Metered	\$/kW	2.6232
MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component		
Wholesale Market Service Rate (WMS) - not including CBR	\$/kWh	0.0041
Capacity Based Recovery (CBR) - Applicable for Class B Customers	\$/kWh	0.0004
Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge (RRRP)	\$/kWh	0.0015
Standard Supply Service - Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

#### Effective and Implementation Date May 1, 2025

This schedule supersedes and replaces all previously approved schedules of Rates, Charges and Loss Factors

FB-2024-0008

#### STREET LIGHTING SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification applies to an account for roadway lighting with a Municipality, Regional Municipality, Ministry of Transportation and private roadway lighting, controlled by photo cells. The consumption for these customers will be based on the calculated connected load times the required lighting times established in the approved Ontario Energy Board street lighting load shape template. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

#### **APPLICATION**

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of the Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Ontario Energy Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

No rates and charges for the distribution of electricity and charges to meet the costs of any work or service done or furnished for the purpose of the distribution of electricity shall be made except as permitted by this schedule, unless required by the Distributor's Licence or a Code or Order of the Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Ontario Energy Board, or as specified herein.

Unless specifically noted, this schedule does not contain any charges for the electricity commodity, be it under the Regulated Price Plan, a contract with a retailer or the wholesale market price, as applicable. In addition, the charges in the MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component of this schedule do not apply to a customer that is an embedded wholesale market participant.

It should be noted that this schedule does not list any charges, assessments, or credits that are required by law to be invoiced by a distributor and that are not subject to Ontario Energy Board approval, such as the Global Adjustment and the HST.

Service Charge (per connection)	\$	16.95
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	12.5259
Rate Rider for Disposition of Group 1 Deferral/Variance Accounts (2025) - effective until April 30, 2026	\$/kW	(0.8497)
Rate Rider for Disposition of Group 2 Deferral/Variance Accounts (2025) - effective until April 30, 2027	\$/kW	(8.7585)
Rate Rider for Dispositon of Global Adjustment Account (2025) - effective until April 30, 2026 Applicable only for Non-RPP Customers	\$/kWh	0.0066
Rate Rider for Disposition of CBR Class B Account (2025) - effective until April 30, 2026	\$/kW	0.0450
Retail Transmission Rate - Network Service Rate	\$/kW	3.1399
Retail Transmission Rate - Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kW	1.8348
MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component		
Wholesale Market Service Rate (WMS) - not including CBR	\$/kWh	0.0041
Capacity Based Recovery (CBR) - Applicable for Class B Customers	\$/kWh	0.0004
Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge (RRRP)	\$/kWh	0.0015
Standard Supply Service - Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

#### Effective and Implementation Date May 1, 2025

This schedule supersedes and replaces all previously approved schedules of Rates, Charges and Loss Factors

EB-2024-0008

#### microFIT SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification applies to an electricity generation facility contracted under the Independent Electricity System Operator's microFIT program and connected to the distributor's distribution system. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

#### **APPLICATION**

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of the Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Ontario Energy Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

No rates and charges for the distribution of electricity and charges to meet the costs of any work or service done or furnished for the purpose of the distribution of electricity shall be made except as permitted by this schedule, unless required by the Distributor's Licence or a Code or Order of the Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Ontario Energy Board, or as specified herein.

Unless specifically noted, this schedule does not contain any charges for the electricity commodity, be it under the Regulated Price Plan, a contract with a retailer or the wholesale market price, as applicable.

It should be noted that this schedule does not list any charges, assessments, or credits that are required by law to be invoiced by a distributor and that are not subject to Ontario Energy Board approval, such as the Global Adjustment and the HST.

#### **MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Delivery Component**

Service Charge	\$	5.00
ALLOWANCES		
Transformer Allowance for Ownership - per kW of billing demand/month	\$/kW	(0.29)
Primary Metering Allowance for Transformer Losses - applied to measured demand & energy	%	(1.00)

#### **SPECIFIC SERVICE CHARGES**

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of the Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Ontario Energy Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

No charges to meet the costs of any work or service done or furnished for the purpose of the distribution of electricity shall be made except as permitted by this schedule, unless required by the Distributor's Licence or a Code or Order of the Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Ontario Energy Board, or as specified herein.

It should be noted that this schedule does not list any charges, assessments, or credits that are required by law to be invoiced by a distributor and that are not subject to Ontario Energy Board approval, such as the Global Adjustment and the HST.

#### **Customer Administration**

Returned cheque (plus bank charges)	\$	25.00
Account set up charge/change of occupancy charge (plus credit agency costs if applicable)	\$	25.00
Special meter reads	\$	25.00
Non-Payment of Account		
Late payment - per month		
(effective annual rate 19.56% per annum or 0.04896% compounded daily rate)	%	1.50
Reconnection at meter - during regular hours	\$	28.00
Reconnection at meter - after regular hours	\$	315.00
Reconnection at pole - during regular hours	\$	28.00
Reconnection at pole - after regular hours	\$	315.00
Other		
Specific charge for access to the power poles - \$/pole/year	\$	39.14
(with the exception of wireless attachments)		39.14

#### Effective and Implementation Date May 1, 2025

This schedule supersedes and replaces all previously approved schedules of Rates, Charges and Loss Factors

FB-2024-0008

### **RETAIL SERVICE CHARGES (if applicable)**

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of the Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Ontario Energy Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

No rates and charges for the distribution of electricity and charges to meet the costs of any work or service done or furnished for the purpose of the distribution of electricity shall be made except as permitted by this schedule, unless required by the Distributor's Licence or a Code or Order of the Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Ontario Energy Board, or as specified herein.

Unless specifically noted, this schedule does not contain any charges for the electricity commodity, be it under the Regulated Price Plan, a contract with a retailer or the wholesale market price, as applicable.

It should be noted that this schedule does not list any charges, assessments, or credits that are required by law to be invoiced by a distributor and that are not subject to Ontario Energy Board approval, such as the Global Adjustment and the HST.

Retail Service Charges refer to services provided by a distributor to retailers or customers related to the supply of competitive electricity.

One-time charge, per retailer, to establish the service agreement between the distributor and the retailer	\$	121.23
Monthly fixed charge, per retailer	\$	48.50
Monthly variable charge, per customer, per retailer	\$/cust.	1.20
Distributor-consolidated billing monthly charge, per customer, per retailer	\$/cust.	0.71
Retailer-consolidated billing monthly credit, per customer, per retailer	\$/cust.	(0.71)
Service Transaction Requests (STR)		
Request fee, per request, applied to the requesting party	\$	0.61
Processing fee, per request, applied to the requesting party	\$	1.20
Request for customer information as outlined in Section 10.6.3 and Chapter 11 of the Retail		
Settlement Code directly to retailers and customers, if not delivered electronically through the		
Electronic Business Transaction (EBT) system, applied to the requesting party		
Up to twice a year	\$	no charge
More than twice a year, per request (plus incremental delivery costs)	\$	4.85
Notice of switch letter charge, per letter (unless the distributor has opted out of applying the charge as per the Ontario Energy Board's Decision and Order EB-2015-0304, issued on February 14, 2019)		
	\$	2.42

#### **LOSS FACTORS**

If the distributor is not capable of prorating changed loss factors jointly with distribution rates, the revised loss factors will be implemented upon the first subsequent billing for each billing cycle.

Total Loss Factor - Secondary Metered Customer < 5,000 kW	1.0754
Total Loss Factor - Primary Metered Customer < 5.000 kW	1.0648