

EB-2008-0214

# NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND WRITTEN HEARING FOR AN ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION RATE CHANGE

#### Veridian Connections Inc.

The Ontario Energy Board has received an application on November 7, 2008 under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, *1998*, S.O. 1998, c. 15 (Schedule B), seeking approval for changes to the rates that Veridian Connections Inc. ("Veridian Connections") charges for electricity distribution, to be effective May 1, 2009. The Board has assigned the application file number EB-2008-0214. The Board's decision on this application may have an effect on all of Veridian Connections' customers. The application was filed under the Board's guidelines for 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Incentive Regulation, which provides for a mechanistic and formulaic adjustment to rates between cost of service applications.

Any change to the rates that Veridian Connections charges for electricity distribution will be reflected in the delivery charges. Delivery charges are one of four regular items on residential and general service customers' electricity bills and vary depending on the amount of electricity consumed.

Veridian Connections indicates that if the application is approved as filed, a residential customer consuming 1,000 kWh per month in the Main service area would experience an approximate 4.1% increase in their delivery charges. This is a \$1.40 increase per month on their bill. A residential (Urban Year-Round) customer in the Gravenhurst service area consuming 1,000 kWh per month would experience an approximate 3.8% increase in their delivery charges. This is a \$1.51 increase per month on their bill. A residential (Suburban Year-Round) customer in the Gravenhurst service area consuming 1,000 kWh per month would experience an approximate 3.5% increase in their delivery charges. This is a \$1.54 increase per month on their bill. A residential (Suburban Seasonal) customer in the Gravenhurst service area consuming 1,000 kWh

per month would experience an approximate 2.6% increase in their delivery charges. This is a \$1.70 increase per month on their bill.

A small general service customer consuming 2,000 kWh per month and having a monthly demand of 50 kW or lower in the Main service area would experience an approximate 2.4% increase in their delivery charges. This is a \$1.54 increase per month on their bill. A small general service customer consuming 2,000 kWh per month and having a monthly demand of 50 kW or lower in the Gravenhurst service area would experience an approximate 2.6% increase in their delivery charges. This is a \$1.79 increase per month on their bill.

## How to see Veridian Connections' Application

Copies of the application are available for inspection at the Board's office in Toronto and on its website, <a href="www.oeb.gov.on.ca">www.oeb.gov.on.ca</a>, and at Veridian Connections' office and may be on its website.

## How to Participate in the Rate Proceeding

You may participate in this proceeding in one of three ways:

### 1. Send a Letter with your Comments to the Board

Your letter with comments will be provided to the Board members deciding the application, and will be part of the public record for the application. Your letter must be received by the Board no later than January 5, 2009. The Board accepts letters of comment by either post or e-mail at the addresses below.

#### 2. Become an Observer

Observers do not actively participate in the proceeding but monitor the progress of the proceeding by receiving documents issued by the Board. You may request observer status in order to receive documents issued by the Board in this proceeding. If you become an observer, you need to contact the applicant and others in order to receive documents that they file in this proceeding and they may charge you for this. Most documents filed in this application will also be available on the Board's website. Your request for observer status must be made in writing and be received by the Board no later than December 12, 2008. The Board accepts observer request letters by either post or e-mail at the

addresses below; however two paper copies are also required. You must also provide a copy of your letter to the applicant.

#### 3. Become an Intervenor

You may ask to become an intervenor if you wish to actively participate in the proceeding. Intervenors are eligible to receive evidence and other material submitted by participants in the hearing. Likewise, intervenors will be expected to send copies of any material they file to all parties to the hearing.

Your request for intervenor status must be made by letter of intervention and be received by the Board no later than December 12, 2008. Your letter of intervention must include a description of how you are, or may be, affected by the outcome of this proceeding; and if you represent a group, a description of the group and its membership. The Board may order costs in this proceeding in relation to Veridian Connections' request for the recovery of Lost Revenue Adjustment Mechanism and Shared Savings Mechanism amounts. You must indicate in your letter of intervention whether you expect to seek costs from the applicant and the grounds for your eligibility for costs. You must provide a copy of your letter of intervention to the applicant.

The Board intends to proceed with this application by way of a written hearing, but may include an oral component for certain parts of the application. That component may be in the form of a technical conference or an oral hearing, or both. The extent of the oral component of the proceeding will be determined on a case by case basis. This approach will enable the Board to address certain matters more effectively than would be possible in a proceeding conducted entirely on a written basis. If you object to the Board proceeding in this fashion, your letter of intervention must state the nature of the process you believe to be necessary and the reasons for undertaking such a process.

Anyone who wishes information and material from the applicant that is in addition to the evidence filed with the Board and that is relevant to the hearing shall request it by written interrogatories filed with the Board and delivered to the applicant on or before January 5, 2009. The applicant shall file with the Board complete responses to the interrogatories and deliver them to all parties no later than January 19, 2009.

Anyone who wishes to make a submission on the application must file that written submission with the Board and deliver it to the applicant by February 2, 2009. If the applicant wishes to respond to the submission(s), the written response must be filed with the Board and delivered to all parties by February 17, 2009.

## **How to File Documents with the Board**

If you already have a user ID, please submit your interrogatories or submission through the Board's web portal at <a href="www.errr.oeb.gov.on.ca">www.errr.oeb.gov.on.ca</a>. Additionally, two paper copies are required. If you do not have a user ID, please visit the Board's website under e-filings and fill out a user ID password request. For instructions on how to file and naming conventions, please refer to the RESS Document Guidelines found at <a href="www.oeb.gov.on.ca">www.oeb.gov.on.ca</a>, e-Filing Services. Those who do not have internet access are asked to submit their interrogatories or submission on a CD or diskette in PDF format, along with two paper copies. You may also send your submission by post or e-mail to the addresses below.

In responding to this Notice, please include Board file number EB-2008-0214 in the subject line of your e-mail or at the top of your document. It is also important that you provide your name, postal address and telephone number and, if available, an e-mail address and fax number. All communications should be directed to the attention of the Board Secretary at the address below, and be received no later than 4:45 p.m. on the required date.

## **Need More Information?**

Further information on how to participate may be obtained by visiting the Board's website at <a href="https://www.oeb.gov.on.ca">www.oeb.gov.on.ca</a> or by calling our Consumer Relations Centre at 1-877-632-2727.

## <u>IMPORTANT</u>

IF YOU DO NOT FILE AN OBJECTION TO A WRITTEN HEARING OR DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE PROCEEDING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS NOTICE, THE BOARD MAY PROCEED IN YOUR ABSENCE AND YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO FURTHER NOTICE IN THIS PROCEEDING.

## **ADDRESSES**

The Board:

The Applicant:

Post:

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

Filings: <a href="mailto:www.errr.oeb.gov.on.ca">www.errr.oeb.gov.on.ca</a></a>
E-mail: <a href="mailto:Boardsec@oeb.gov.on.ca">Boardsec@oeb.gov.on.ca</a>

Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (toll free)

Fax: 416-440-7656

**DATED** at Toronto, November 25, 2008 **ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD** 

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary Veridian Connections Inc. 55 Taunton Road East Ajax ON L1T 3V3

E-mail: garmstrong@veridian.on.ca