



EB-2007-0031

IN THE MATTER OF the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*,
S.O. 1998, c. 15, Schedule B;

AND IN THE MATTER OF cost award eligibility for
interested parties in a consultation process to develop a
policy framework for electricity distribution rate design.

BEFORE: Pam Nowina
Vice Chair and Presiding Member

Paul Vlahos
Member

Ken Quesnelle
Member

DECISION ON COST ELIGIBILITY

On March 30, 2007, the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") began a consultation process in relation to the development of a policy framework for electricity distribution rate design. In its letter of March 30, 2007, the Board also notified interested parties that cost awards would be available to eligible persons under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* in relation to their participation in this consultation process, and that any costs awarded would be recovered from rate-regulated licensed electricity distributors.

On October 17, 2007, the Board received a late request to participate and a late request for cost eligibility from the Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario ("AMPCO"). The letter containing these requests has been posted on the Board's website, and AMPCO has been added as a registered participant in this consultation.

Stage 1 of this consultation process (the provision of written comments on Board staff's Discussion Paper) has now been completed. AMPCO did not participate in stage 1, and its request for eligibility for costs relates to subsequent stages of the consultation.

Electricity distributors were given an opportunity to file any objections they might have in relation to the eligibility of AMPCO for an award of costs. The Board did not receive any objections from distributors.

Based on the criteria set out in section 3 of the Board's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*, the Board has determined that AMPCO is eligible for cost awards for future stages of this project.

ISSUED at Toronto, November 28, 2007

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Pamela Nowina
Vice Chair and Presiding Member

Original signed by

Paul Vlahos
Member

Original signed by

Ken Quesnelle
Member