

Wirebury Connections Inc. INTERROGATORY #30

Interrogatory

Networks' evidence is that the intent of the legislation was to limit a distributor's obligation "to connect customers at no cost" to areas where the customer lies along one of the distributor's existing distribution lines. Networks also concludes that legal and logistical problems would be created if a distributor's "financial obligation for the connection of the customer" was extended to areas where the customer does not lie along an existing line.

Reference: Appendix A, p.6, L 22-24

- a) Please explain what Networks means by the financial obligation to connect a customer.
- b) Does Networks contend that under section 28 a customer who lies along one of its distribution lines must be connected at any cost to Networks and at no cost to the customer?
- c) If the answer to (b) is yes, please provide the legislative authority supporting this position. If the answer to (b) is no, please describe the capital contribution requirements that must be made by the customer.

Response

- a) Section 28 of the Electricity Act must be read in conjunction with the Distribution System Code. The licensed LDC is obliged to provide a basic connection at no charge only to residential customers. The DSC and the obligation to connect under Section 28, when read together, mean that the LDC has an obligation to make the connection where the customer lies along the lines of the LDC. In other circumstances, the LDC has an obligation only to make an offer to connect, as per the provisions of its distribution licence.
- b) No.
- c) Please see Section 3 of the Distribution System Code.