



EB-2007-0033

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

AND IN THE MATTER OF an application by Oakville Hydro Distribution Inc. seeking an order to make changes to its Conservation and Demand Management plan;

AND IN THE MATTER OF an application by Oakville Hydro Distribution Inc. under section 21(4)(b) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, seeking to dispose of the proceeding without a hearing.

BEFORE: Gordon Kaiser
Presiding Member and Vice Chair

Cathy Spoel
Member

DECISION AND ORDER

Oakville Hydro Distribution Inc. (“Oakville Hydro”) filed an application, dated February 1, 2007, for an order to approve changes to its Conservation and Demand Management (“CDM”) plan. Oakville Hydro has also requested, pursuant to subsection 21(4)(b) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (the “Act”) that the Ontario Energy Board (the “Board”) dispose of the proceeding without a hearing. The Board assigned file number EB-2007-0033 to this application.

On March 22, 2005, Oakville Hydro was granted approval of its Conservation and Demand Management (“CDM”) plan. The total approved budget for Oakville Hydro’s CDM plan is \$2,898,000. As a condition of approval, Oakville Hydro was ordered to apply to the Board for approval if cumulative fund transfers among programs exceeded 20% of the approved budget. The proposed changes are outlined in Table 1.

Table 1 – Requested changes to CDM budget

Program/measure	Approved budget	Revised budget	Change
Customer Education	\$15,000.00	\$36,810.00	\$21,810.00
Smart meter, intelligent network	\$1,100,000.00	\$440,503.00	(\$659,497.00)
Multi-Residential Interval Metering	\$500,000.00	\$1,086,816.54	\$586,816.54
Annual Commercial/Industrial Energy Information seminars	\$25,000.00	\$25,000	\$0
Distributed Generation – Digester Gas Program	\$300,000.00	\$4,920.00	(\$295,080.00)
Distributed Generation – Wind Turbine	\$250,000.00	\$6,100.00	(\$243,900.00)
Peak Demand Reduction	\$300,000.00	\$800,000.00	\$500,000.00
Voltage Conversion	\$400,000.00	\$400,000.00	\$0.00
Lighting Retrofit	\$0.00	\$55,130.46	\$55,130.46
Solar Water Heater	\$0.00	\$34,720.00	\$34,720.00
Total	\$2,898,000.00	\$2,898,000.00	\$0.00

Oakville Hydro is seeking approval to reallocate funds originally allocated to smart meter intelligent network, and distributed generation projects. Oakville Hydro indicated the proposed change is required because of lower than expected response to original CDM plans.

Oakville Hydro proposes that \$21,810 be reallocated to customer education programs such as the Halton Learning Foundation. The increase reflects a three-year commitment to the initiative. It is also proposed that \$586,816.54 be reallocated to Multi-Residential Interval Metering, to monitor usage individually in Multi-Resident dwellings. Research conducted suggests that a switch from bulk to individual meters result in a typical savings of over 30%.

Oakville Hydro further proposed that \$500,000 be reallocated towards Peak Demand Reduction. This cost would cover a 325-350kW natural-gas fired generator for 'peak-shaving' and would free up the distribution network during times of peak demand.

Two new programs are proposed: a lighting retrofit on-site at the Oakville Hydro main office garage and facilities. This program will require a proposed reallocation of \$55,130.46. It has been suggested that this would lead-by-example for the public. Secondly, a reallocation of \$34,720 for a solar water heater to be used in conjunction with the existing building systems of the Oakville Hydro main office. Oakville Hydro believes this program will be useful in determining potential energy savings from hot water heating for consumers that is possible through such on-site devices.

Three program cancellations are proposed:

It is proposed that the Smart Meter program be cancelled. It is the opinion of Oakville Hydro that the "Intelligent Network" may not function properly with the Quadlogic fiber optics systems that are in place. The proposed cancellation will make \$659,816 available to other CDM programs.

It is proposed that the Digester Gas program be cancelled, citing numerous issues including uncertainty regarding flow and treatment of gas, as well as complications involving the site. The proposed cancellation will make \$295,080 available to other CDM programs.

It is proposed that the 80kW Wind Turbine program be cancelled, citing an insufficient wind regime, and outdated technologies as deficiencies of the project. The proposed cancellation will make \$243,900 available for other CDM programs.

Oakville Hydro has also requested the Board dispose of this matter without a hearing pursuant to section 21(4)(b) of the Act. Section 21(4)(b) of the Act states that the Board may dispose of a proceeding without a hearing if the Board determines that "*no person, other than the applicant, appellant or licence holder will be adversely affected in a material way by the outcome of the proceeding and the applicant, appellant or licence holder has consented to disposing of a proceeding without a hearing.*"

Oakville Hydro issued public notice of its original CDM application (RP-2004-0203 / EB-2004-0208) as directed by the Board. There were no intervenors in the application. Based on the evidence filed, and in consideration of the level of participant involvement in the original proceeding, the Board finds that no person will be adversely affected in a material way by the outcome of this proceeding, and therefore finds that a hearing is not necessary.

The Board finds that the activities proposed by Oakville Hydro qualify as CDM activities.

The Board approves the re-allocation of funds as proposed by Oakville Hydro.

THE BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. Oakville Hydro Distribution Inc. is granted approval to re-allocate funds in their CDM plan as per the amounts cited in Table 1 of this Decision and Order.

DATED at Toronto, March 22, 2007

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Peter H. O'Dell
Assistant Board Secretary