Commission de l'Énergie de l'Ontario



RP-2004-0203 EB-2004-0435

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 Ottawa River Power Corporation for an Order Pre-approving its Conservation and Demand Management Plan.

BEFORE: Gordon Kaiser Vice Chair and Presiding Member

> George Dominy Member

Cathy Spoel Member

ORDER

An application dated November 27, 2004 and amended on February 2, 2005 has been filed with the Ontario Energy Board, by Ottawa River Power Corporation (ORPC) for an Order pre-approving its Conservation and Demand Management (CDM) Plan. The Board assigned File No. RP-2004-0203 / EB-2004-0435 to this application.

A Notice of Application and Written Hearing was issued by the Board on February 17, 2005. ORPC served and published the Notice as directed by the Board. The intervention period expired on March 7, 2005. There were no intervenors.

On May 31, 2004, the Minister of Energy granted approval to all distributors in Ontario to apply to the Board for an increase in their 2005 rates by the third instalment of their

incremental market adjusted revenue requirement (MARR). This approval is conditional on a commitment to reinvest an equivalent amount in CDM initiatives.

On October 5, 2004, the Board issued a Procedural Order (the Procedural Order) which addressed the opening of deferral accounts; the recovery of development expenses; the process for applying for plan approval; and the filing requirements for plan approval. Pursuant to the Procedural Order all electricity distribution companies, including ORPC, received authorization to establish a deferral account.

The elements of ORPC's CDM Plan include: load management, an energy conservation challenge for residential and commercial customers, a system loss study, street light retrofits and an LED traffic light program.

The total budget for the CDM plan is \$296,000. This amount is consistent with the third instalment of its incremental MARR.

The Board finds that the activities and programs proposed by ORPC qualify as conservation and demand management activities and that the planned investments are eligible for tracking in the deferral account.

The Board approves the expenditure of \$296,000 for implementation of the CDM Plan, which is consistent with the amount of the third instalment of ORPC's incremental MARR.

The Board requires that ORPC file with the Board quarterly and annual reports on the progress of the initiatives included in the approved CDM Plan. The annual reports will be subject to public review.

The Board understands that the approved CDM Plan and the associated budget allocation to the individual programs may be subject to modifications. The Board requires that all modifications be identified in the quarterly and annual reports. In addition, ORPC shall apply to the Board for approval for modifications of spending above 20% of the approved budget.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- Ottawa River Power Corporation is granted approval of the Conservation and Demand Management Plan as submitted for the Board's review in the application dated November 27, 2004. This investment satisfies the Minister of Energy's condition of a financial commitment to reinvest the equivalent of one year of incremental market adjusted revenue requirement in conservation and demand management. The approved total budget is \$296,000.
- Ottawa River Power Corporation shall file with the Board quarterly and annual reports on the progress of the initiatives within its Conservation and Demand Management Plan.
- 3. The quarterly reports shall be filed no later than 30 days after the end of each calendar quarter.
- 4. The annual reports shall be filed no later than March 31 of the following year. The annual reports shall be subject to public review. The annual report shall include a cost benefit analysis on the program included in the Conservation and Demand Management Plan.
- 5. Ottawa River Power Corporation shall apply to the Board for approval if cumulative fund transfers among programs exceed 20% of the approved budget.

6. Ottawa River Power Corporation may credit the costs of preparing its Conservation and Demand Management application and participation in the hearing including intervenor and Board costs against the amount required to be spent on its Conservation and Demand Management Plan budget.

DATED at Toronto, March 18, 2005.

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Peter H. O'Dell Assistant Board Secretary