



EB-2007-0527

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 Festival
Hydro Inc. for an order or orders approving or fixing just
and reasonable distribution rates and other charges, to
be effective May 1, 2007.

BEFORE: Paul Sommerville
Presiding Member

Paul Vlahos
Member

Ken Quesnelle
Member

DECISION AND ORDER

Festival Hydro Inc. ("Festival") is a licensed distributor providing electrical service to consumers within its licensed service area. Festival filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") for an order or orders approving or fixing just and reasonable rates for the distribution of electricity and other charges, to be effective May 1, 2007.

Festival is one of 85 electricity distributors in Ontario that are regulated by the Board. To streamline the process for the approval of distribution rates and charges for these distributors, the Board issued its *Report of the Board on Cost of Capital and 2nd Generation Incentive Regulation for Ontario's Electricity Distributors* (the "Report") on December 20, 2006. The Report contained the relevant guidelines for 2007 rate adjustments ("the guidelines") for distributors applying for rates only on the basis of the cost of capital and 2nd generation incentive regulation mechanism policies set out in the Report.

Public notice of Festival's rate application was given through newspaper publication in Festival's service area. The evidence filed as part of the rate application was made available to the public. Both Festival and interested parties had the opportunity to file written submissions in relation to the rate application. The Board received no submissions. While the Board has considered the entire record in this rate application, it has made reference only to such evidence as is necessary to provide context to its findings.

Festival's rate application was filed on the basis of the guidelines. In fixing new rates and charges for Festival, the Board has applied the policies described in the Report.

After confirming the accuracy of the 2006 rate tariff and accompanying materials submitted in the rate application, the Board applied its approved price cap index adjustment to distribution rates (fixed and variable) uniformly across all customer classes. The price cap index is calculated as a price escalator less an X-factor of 1.0%, intended to represent input price and productivity trends. Based on the final 2006 data published by Statistics Canada, the Board has established the price escalator to be 1.9%. The resulting price cap index adjustment is therefore 0.9%.

The 2006-approved Conservation and Demand Management funding component that was included in 2006 rates was removed prior to the application of the price cap index adjustment.

The price cap index adjustment was not applied to the following components of the rates:

- the specific service charges;
- the regulatory asset recovery rate rider; and
- the smart meter rate adder (an amount in the fixed components of the rates associated with smart meter cost recovery).

Festival requested an amount of \$0.46 for smart meter costs. Regulation 153/07 under the *Electricity Act, 1998*, which amends regulation 427/06 under the same Act, was filed on April 10, 2007. As a result, it is the Board's understanding that Festival will not be undertaking any smart metering activity (i.e. discretionary metering activity) in 2007.

However, the Board has approved an amount of \$0.26 per month per metered customer to be collected through a smart meter rate adder. This nominal funding amount was calculated using the Board's model for inactive distributors, as described in the Smart Metering Rates Addendum to the Report. The amount collected through the smart meter rate adder will be booked into the existing variance accounts, and retained in those accounts, to help fund future smart meter activity. As the notice of this application indicated, the Board will be holding a combined proceeding to consider, among other things, appropriate recovery of smart meter costs.

The Board has made the necessary adjustments to Festival's filed 2006 Tariff of Rates and Charges to produce a new Tariff of Rates and Charges to be effective May 1, 2007. The Board finds the rates and charges in the Tariff of Rates and Charges attached as Appendix A to this decision to be just and reasonable.

THE BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. The Tariff of Rates and Charges set out in Appendix A of this order is approved, effective May 1, 2007, for electricity consumed or estimated to have been consumed on and after May 1, 2007.
2. The Tariff of Rates and Charges set out in Appendix A of this order supersedes all previous distribution rate schedules approved by the Ontario Energy Board for Festival, and is final in all respects.
3. Festival shall notify its customers of the rate changes no later than with the first bill reflecting the new rates.

DATED at Toronto, April 12, 2007.

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Peter H. O'Dell
Assistant Board Secretary

Appendix A

EB-2007-0527

April 12, 2007

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Festival Hydro Inc.

TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES

Effective May 1, 2007

This schedule supersedes and replaces all previously approved schedules of Rates, Charges and Loss Factors

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APPLICATION

- The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Codes, Guidelines or Orders of the Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.
- No rates and charges for the distribution of electricity and charges to meet the costs of any work or service done or furnished for the purpose of the distribution of electricity shall be made except as permitted by this schedule, unless required by the Distributor's Licence or a Code, Guideline or Order of the Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Board, or as specified herein.
- This schedule does not contain any rates and charges relating to the electricity commodity (e.g. the Regulated Price Plan).

EFFECTIVE DATES

- DISTRIBUTION RATES** - May 1, 2007 for all consumption or deemed consumption services used on or after that date.
- SPECIFIC SERVICE CHARGES** - May 1, 2007 for all charges incurred by customers on or after that date.
- LOSS FACTOR ADJUSTMENT** – May 1, 2007 unless the distributor is not capable of prorating changed loss factors jointly with distribution rates. In that case, the revised loss factors will be implemented upon the first subsequent billing for each billing cycle.

SERVICE CLASSIFICATIONS

Residential

A customer is classed as residential when all the following conditions are met:

- (a) the property is zoned strictly residential by the local municipality,
- (b) the account is created and maintained in the customer's name,
- (c) the building is used for dwelling purposes.

Exceptions may be made for properties zoned for farming use, under the following conditions:

- (a) the principal use of the service is for the residence,
- (b) the service size is 200 amperes or less, and the service is 120/240 volt single phase.

General Service Less Than 50 kW

This classification refers to a non residential account whose peak demand is less than 50 kW in eight of the past twelve months and never reaches 100 kW in any month. For a new customer without prior billing history, the peak demand will be estimated by Festival Hydro Inc. Customers who are classed as General Service but consider themselves to be residential, must provide Festival Hydro Inc. with a copy of their tax assessment, which clearly demonstrates the zoning is for residential use only.

General Service 50 to 4,999 kW

This classification refers to a non residential account whose peak demand is equal to or greater than 50 kW in eight of the past twelve months, or with a peak demand above 100 kW in any month, but less than 5,000 kW. For new customers without prior billing history, the peak demand will be estimated by Festival Hydro Inc.

Large Use

This classification refers to an account whose monthly peak demand is equal to or greater than 5,000 kW for twelve consecutive months, or is forecast to be equal to or greater than 5,000 kW.

Unmetered Scattered Load

This classification applies to an account whose average monthly maximum demand is less than, or is forecast to be less than, 50 kW and the consumption is unmetered. Such connections include cable TV power packs, bus shelters, telephone booths, traffic lights, pedestrian Cross-Walk signals/beacons, railway crossings, etc. The level of the consumption will be agreed to by the distributor and the customer, based on detailed manufacturer information/documentation with regard to electrical consumption of the unmetered load or periodic monitoring of actual consumption.

Sentinel Lighting

This classification refers to accounts that are an unmetered lighting load supplied to a sentinel light.

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Street Lighting

This classification applies to an account for roadway lighting with a Municipality, Regional Municipality, Ministry of Transportation and private roadway lighting, controlled by photo cells. The consumption for these customers will be based on the calculated connected load times the required lighting times established in the approved OEB street lighting load shape template. If connected to the municipal or the Province of Ontario street lighting system, decorative lighting and tree lighting services will be treated as a Street Lighting class of service. Decorative or tree lighting connected to Festival Hydro Inc.'s distribution system will be treated as a General Service Less Than 50 kW class customers.

MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES

Residential

Service Charge	\$	14.43
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0159
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kWh	0.0007
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0057
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0050
Wholesale Market Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0052
Rural Rate Protection Charge	\$/kWh	0.0010
Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Residential (Hensall)

Service Charge	\$	9.34
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0100
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kWh	0.0007
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0057
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0050
Wholesale Market Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0052
Rural Rate Protection Charge	\$/kWh	0.0010
Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

General Service Less Than 50 kW

Service Charge	\$	28.53
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0143
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kWh	(0.0003)
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0052
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0045
Wholesale Market Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0052
Rural Rate Protection Charge	\$/kWh	0.0010
Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

General Service 50 to 4,999 kW

Service Charge	\$	211.22
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	2.2732
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kW	(0.2085)
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kW	2.1218
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kW	1.7882
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate – Interval Metered	\$/kW	2.2535
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate – Interval Metered	\$/kW	1.9603
Wholesale Market Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0052
Rural Rate Protection Charge	\$/kWh	0.0010
Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

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Large Use

Service Charge	\$	10,506.81
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	1.0993
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kW	(0.0580)
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate – Interval Metered	\$/kW	2.4952
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate – Interval Metered	\$/kW	2.2417
Wholesale Market Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0052
Rural Rate Protection Charge	\$/kWh	0.0010
Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Unmetered Scattered Load

Service Charge (per connection)	\$	14.14
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0143
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kWh	(0.0005)
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0052
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0045
Wholesale Market Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0052
Rural Rate Protection Charge	\$/kWh	0.0010
Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Sentinel Lighting

Service Charge (per connection)	\$	0.80
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	4.2164
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kW	1.9871
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kW	1.6083
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kW	1.4113
Wholesale Market Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0052
Rural Rate Protection Charge	\$/kWh	0.0010
Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Street Lighting

Service Charge (per connection)	\$	0.45
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	2.1097
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kW	(0.1200)
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kW	1.6002
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kW	1.3824
Wholesale Market Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0052
Rural Rate Protection Charge	\$/kWh	0.0010
Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Specific Service Charges

Customer Administration		
Arrears certificate	\$	15.00
Income tax letter	\$	15.00
Credit reference/credit check (plus credit agency costs)	\$	15.00
Returned Cheque (plus bank charges)	\$	15.00
Account set up charge/change of occupancy charge (plus credit agency costs if applicable)	\$	30.00
Meter dispute charge plus Measurement Canada fees (if meter found correct)	\$	30.00

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Non-Payment of Account		
Late Payment - per month	%	1.50
Late Payment - per annum	%	19.56
Collection of account charge – no disconnection	\$	30.00
Disconnect/Reconnect Charge - At Meter During Regular Hours	\$	65.00
Disconnect/Reconnect Charge - At Meter After Hours	\$	185.00
Disconnect/Reconnect at pole – during regular hours	\$	185.00
Disconnect/Reconnect at pole – after regular hours	\$	415.00
Install/Remove load control device – during regular hours	\$	65.00
Install/Remove load control device – after regular hours	\$	185.00
Service call – customer owned equipment	\$	30.00
Service call – after regular hours	\$	165.00
Temporary service install & remove – overhead – no transformer	\$	500.00
Temporary service install & remove – underground – no transformer	\$	300.00
Temporary service install & remove – overhead – with transformer	\$	1000.00
Specific Charge for Access to the Power Poles – per pole/year	\$	22.35
Allowances		
Transformer Allowance for Ownership - per kW of billing demand/month	\$/kW	(0.60)
Primary Metering Allowance for transformer losses – applied to measured demand and energy	%	(1.00)

LOSS FACTORS

Total Loss Factor – Secondary Metered Customer < 5,000 kW	1.0281
Total Loss Factor – Secondary Metered Customer > 5,000 kW	1.0145
Total Loss Factor – Primary Metered Customer < 5,000 kW	1.0178
Total Loss Factor – Primary Metered Customer > 5,000 kW	1.0045