



EB-2007-0538

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 Horizon
Utilities Corporation 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

Horizon Utilities Corporation (“Horizon Utilities”) is a licensed distributor providing electrical service to consumers within its licensed service area. Horizon Utilities 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.

Horizon Utilities 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 Horizon Utilities' rate application was given through newspaper publication in Horizon Utilities' service area. The evidence filed as part of the rate application was made available to the public. Both Horizon Utilities 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.

Horizon Utilities' rate application was filed on the basis of the guidelines. In fixing new rates and charges for Horizon Utilities, 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 large corporation tax allowance 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).

Horizon Utilities requested an amount for smart meter costs. The Board has approved an amount of \$0.82 per month per metered customer. Horizon Utilities' variance accounts for smart meter program implementation costs, previously authorized by the Board, are continued. 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.

Horizon Utilities' standby rates were approved as interim by the Board in its 2006 distribution rates order. The Board is still examining the issues related to standby rates, and is not in a position to make a final order for these rates at this time. The standby rates will be adjusted by the price cap index but remain interim.

The Board has made the necessary adjustments to Horizon Utilities' 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 Horizon Utilities, and is final in all respects, except for the standby rates which are approved as interim.
3. Horizon Utilities 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-2007-0538

April 12, 2007

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Horizon Utilities Corporation

TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES

Effective May 1, 2007

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

EB-2007-0538

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

This classification applies to an account taking electricity at 750 volts or less where the electricity is used exclusively in a separate metered living accommodation. Customers shall be residing in single-dwelling units that consist of a detached house or one unit of a semi-detached, duplex, triplex or quadruplex house, with a residential zoning. Separately metered dwellings within a town house complex or apartment building also qualify as residential customers. All customers are single-phase.

General Service Less Than 50 kW

This classification applies to a non residential account taking electricity at 750 volts or less whose average monthly maximum demand is less than, or is forecast to be less than, 50 kW.

General Service 50 to 4,999 kW

This classification applies to a non residential account whose average monthly maximum demand used for billing purposes is equal to or greater than, or is forecast to be equal to or greater than, 50 kW but less than 5,000 kW.

Large Use

This classification applies to an account whose average monthly maximum demand used for billing purposes is equal to or greater than, or is forecast to be equal to or greater than, 5,000 kW.

Unmetered Scattered Load

This classification applies to an account taking electricity at 750 volts or less 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, 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.

Standby Power

This classification refers to an account that has Load Displacement Generation and requires the distributor to provide back-up service.

Sentinel Lighting

This classification applies to safety/security lighting with a Residential, General Service or Large Use customer. This is typically exterior lighting, and often unmetered. Consumption is estimated based on the equipment rating and estimated hours of use.

Horizon Utilities Corporation

TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES

Effective May 1, 2007

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

EB-2007-0538

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.

MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES

Residential

Service Charge	\$	14.81
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0138
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kWh	(0.0002)
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0058
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0046
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	\$	26.13
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0067
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kWh	(0.0004)
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0052
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0042
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	\$	235.87
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	1.3587
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kW	(0.0587)
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kW	2.0540
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kW	1.6685
Wholesale Market Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0052
Rural Rate Protection Charge	\$/kWh	0.0010
Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Large Use

Service Charge	\$	9,431.67
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	0.9236
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kW	(0.2188)
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kW	2.3464
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kW	1.9174
Wholesale Market Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0052
Rural Rate Protection Charge	\$/kWh	0.0010
Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Horizon Utilities Corporation

TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES

Effective May 1, 2007

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

EB-2007-0538

Unmetered Scattered Load

Service Charge (per connection)	\$	2.26
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0024
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kWh	0.0030
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0053
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0043
Wholesale Market Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0052
Rural Rate Protection Charge	\$/kWh	0.0010
Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Standby Power – APPROVED ON AN INTERIM BASIS

Standby Charge – for a month where standby power is not provided. The charge is applied to the contracted amount (e.g. nameplate rating of generation facility).	\$/kW	1.2670
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kW	0.0021

Sentinel Lighting

Service Charge (per connection)	\$	1.59
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	3.9494
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kW	3.2926
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kW	1.7068
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kW	1.3427
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)	\$	0.36
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	1.5142
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kW	(0.5442)
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kW	1.6171
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kW	1.3091
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
Statement of Account	\$	15.00
Pulling post-dated cheques	\$	15.00
Duplicate invoices for previous billing	\$	15.00
Request for other billing information	\$	15.00
Easement Letter	\$	15.00
Income tax letter	\$	15.00
Notification Charge	\$	15.00
Account history	\$	15.00
Credit reference/credit check (plus credit agency costs)	\$	15.00
Returned Cheque charge (plus bank charges)	\$	15.00
Charge to certify cheque	\$	15.00
Legal letter charge	\$	15.00
Account set up charge / change of occupancy charge (plus credit agency costs if applicable)	\$	30.00

Horizon Utilities Corporation

TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES

Effective May 1, 2007

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

EB-2007-0538

Special Meter reads	\$	30.00
Meter dispute charge plus Measurement Canada fees (if meter found correct)	\$	30.00
Non-Payment of Account		
Late Payment - per month	%	1.50
Late Payment - per annum	%	19.56
Collection of account charge – no disconnection	\$	30.00
Collection of account charge – no disconnection – after regular hours	\$	165.00
Disconnect/Reconnect at meter – during regular hours	\$	65.00
Disconnect/Reconnect at meter – after regular 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 and remove – overhead – no transformer	\$	500.00
Temporary service install and remove – underground – no transformer	\$	300.00
Temporary service install and remove – overhead – with transformer	\$	1,000.00
Specific Charge for Access to the Power Poles – per pole/year	\$	22.35
Administrative Billing Charge	\$	150.00
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		1.0428
Total Loss Factor – Secondary Metered Customer > 5,000 kW		1.0164
Total Loss Factor – Primary Metered Customer < 5,000 kW		1.0324
Total Loss Factor – Primary Metered Customer > 5,000 kW		1.0063