Ontario Energy Board Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario



EB-2007-0552

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 London 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

London Hydro Inc. ("London Hydro") is a licensed distributor providing electrical service to consumers within its licensed service area. London Hydro 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.

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

London Hydro's rate application was filed on the basis of the guidelines. In fixing new rates and charges for London Hydro, 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).

London Hydro requested an amount of \$0.34 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 London Hydro will not be undertaking any smart metering activity (i.e. discretionary metering activity) in 2007.

However, the Board has approved an amount of \$0.27 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.

London Hydro's 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 London Hydro'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 London Hydro, and is final in all respects, except for the standby rates which are approved as interim.
- 3. London Hydro 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

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April 12, 2007

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London 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

APPLICATION

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- 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. Separately metered dwellings within a town house complex or apartment building also qualify as residential customers. Multi-unit residential establishments such as apartment buildings supplied through one service (bulk meter) shall be classified as General Service. Where electricity service is provided to combined residential and business (including agricultural) usage and the wiring does not provide for separate metering, the classification shall be at the discretion of London Hydro and should be based on such considerations as the estimated predominant consumption. Further servicing details are available in London Hydro's Conditions of Service

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. Multi-unit residential establishments such as apartment buildings supplied through one service (bulk meter) shall be classified as General Service. Where electricity service is provided to combined residential and business (including agricultural) usage and the wiring does not provide for separate metering, the classification shall be at the discretion of London Hydro and should be based on such considerations as the estimated predominant consumption. Further servicing details are available in London Hydro's Conditions of Service

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. Note that for the determination of the billing demand and the application of the Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate and the Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate the following sub-classifications apply:

- General Service 50 to 199 kW non-interval metered
- General Service 50 to 4,999 kW interval metered.

Further servicing details are available in London Hydro's Conditions of Service

General Service 1,000 to 4,999 kW (Co-Generation)

Embedded generation, co-generation or load displacement customers have the option to reserve demand capacity on the London Hydro distribution system for import load through mutual agreement/contract. For the embedded generation customers with a gross peak demand annual average of less than 1,000 kW and equal to or greater than 50 kW per month, the General Service 50 to 4,999 kW distribution rates will be applied, as long as there is no requirement for reserve capacity from the customer. For the embedded generation customers with a gross peak demand annual average of less than 50 kW per month, the General Service Less Than 50 kW distribution rates will be applied, as long as there is no requirement for reserve capacity from the customer. Further servicing details are available in London Hydro's Conditions of Service.

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London 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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Standby Power

This classification refers to an account that has Load Displacement Generation and requires London Hydro to provide back-up service. The distribution Standby Power rate will be applied to all monthly kW's reserved. Further servicing details are available in London Hydro's Conditions of Service

Large User

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. Further servicing details are available in London Hydro's Conditions of Service.

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. Further servicing details are available in London Hydro's Conditions of Service

Sentinel Lighting

This classification refers to accounts that are an unmetered lighting load supplied to a sentinel light. Further servicing details are available in London Hydro's Conditions of Service

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. Further servicing details are available in London Hydro's Conditions of Service.

MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES

Residential

Service Charge	\$	12.08
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0131
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kWh	0.0036
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0056
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0048
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	\$	32.48
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0098
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kWh	0.0018
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0051
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

London Hydro Inc. TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES Effective May 1, 2007

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General Service 50 to 4,999 kW

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Service Charge Distribution Volumetric Rate Regulatory Asset Recovery Regulatory Asset Recovery – former TOU classified accounts Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate – Interval Metered Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate – Interval Metered Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate – Interval Metered Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate – Interval Metered Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$ \$/kW \$/kW \$/kW \$/kW \$/kW \$/kWh \$/kWh \$/kWh \$/kWh	238.58 1.2977 0.6077 0.1279 1.8273 1.5613 2.3431 2.1755 0.0052 0.0010 0.25
General Service 50 – 4,999 kW (Co-Generation)		
Service Charge Distribution Volumetric Rate Regulatory Asset Recovery Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate – Interval Metered Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate – Interval Metered Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate – Interval Metered Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate – Interval Metered Rural Rate Protection Charge Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$ \$/kW \$/kW \$/kW \$/kW \$/kW \$/kWh \$/kWh \$/kWh	3020.73 4.6155 0.0668 2.8100 2.2900 2.8100 2.2900 0.0052 0.0010 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	2.2146
Large Use		
Service Charge Distribution Volumetric Rate Regulatory Asset Recovery Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate – Interval Metered Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate – Interval Metered Wholesale Market Service Rate Rural Rate Protection Charge Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$ \$/kW \$/kW \$/kW \$/kWh \$/kWh \$	13,488.49 1.4557 0.1173 2.4001 2.1755 0.0052 0.0010 0.25
Unmetered Scattered Load		
Service Charge (per connection) Distribution Volumetric Rate Regulatory Asset Recovery Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate Wholesale Market Service Rate Rural Rate Protection Charge Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$ \$/kWh \$/kWh \$/kWh \$/kWh \$/kWh \$/kWh \$	0.42 0.0086 0.0018 0.0051 0.0043 0.0052 0.0010 0.25

London Hydro Inc. TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES Effective May 1, 2007

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Sentinel Lighting		
Service Charge (per connection) Distribution Volumetric Rate Regulatory Asset Recovery Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate Wholesale Market Service Rate Rural Rate Protection Charge Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$ \$/kW \$/kW \$/kW \$/kWh \$/kWh \$/kWh	0.49 1.5976 0.5121 1.6110 1.3765 0.0052 0.0010 0.25
Street Lighting		
Service Charge (per connection) Distribution Volumetric Rate Regulatory Asset Recovery Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate Wholesale Market Service Rate Rural Rate Protection Charge Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$ \$/kW \$/kW \$/kW \$/kWh \$/kWh \$/kWh	0.28 1.4235 0.0985 1.6089 1.3748 0.0052 0.0010 0.25
Specific Service Charges		
Customer Administration Easement letter Account set up charge/change of occupancy charge (plus credit agency costs if applicable) Returned Cheque (plus bank charges)	\$ \$ \$	15.00 30.00 15.00
Non-Payment of Account Late Payment - per month Late Payment - per annum Collection of Account Charge – No Disconnection Disconnect/Reconnect at meter – During regular hours Disconnect/Reconnect at meter – After regular hours Disconnect/Reconnect at Pole – During regular hours Disconnect/Reconnect at Pole – After regular hours	% % \$ \$ \$ \$	1.50 19.56 10.00 35.00 185.00 185.00 415.00
Meter Interrogation Charge Special Meter Reads Install/Remove load control device – During regular hours Install/Remove load control device – After regular hours Temporary Service install & remove – overhead – no transformer Temporary Service install & remove – underground – no transformer Service Call – After regular hours Specific Charge for Access to the Power Poles – per pole/year	\$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$	5.50 30.00 65.00 185.00 500.00 300.00 165.00 22.35
Allowances Transformer Allowance for Ownership - per kW of billing demand/month Primary Metering Allowance for transformer losses – applied to measured demand and energy	\$/kW %	(0.60) (1.00)
LOSS FACTORS		
Total Loss Factor – Secondary Metered Customer < 5,000 kW Total Loss Factor – Secondary Metered Customer > 5,000 kW Total Loss Factor – Primary Metered Customer < 5,000 kW Total Loss Factor – Primary Metered Customer > 5,000 kW		1.0421 1.0146 1.0317 1.0046