



EB-2007-0588

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 West Coast
Huron Energy 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

West Coast Huron Energy Inc. (“West Coast”) is a licensed distributor providing electrical service to consumers within its licensed service area. West Coast 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.

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

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

West Coast requested an amount for smart meter costs. The Board has approved an amount of \$0.26 per month per metered customer. West Coast's variance accounts for smart meter program implementation costs, previously authorized by the Board, are continued. It is the Board's understanding that West Coast will not be undertaking any smart metering activity (i.e. discretionary metering activity) in 2007. 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 West Coast'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 West Coast, and is final in all respects.
3. West Coast 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-2007-0588

April 12, 2007

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

West Coast Huron Energy 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

This classification refers to the supply of electrical energy to customers residing in residential dwelling units.

General Service Less Than 50 kW

This classification refers to the supply of electrical energy to General Service Buildings requiring a connection with a connected load less than 50 kW, and, Town Houses and Condominiums described in section 3.1.8 of the distributor's Conditions of Service that require centralized bulk metering. General Service buildings are defined as buildings that are used for purposes other than single-family dwellings.

General Service 50 to 499 kW

This classification refers to the supply of electrical energy to General Service Customers requiring a connection with a connected load or whose average monthly maximum demand used for billing purposes is equal to or greater than 50 kW but less than 500 kW.

General Service 500 to 4,999 kW

This classification refers to the supply of electrical energy to General Service Customers requiring a connection with a connected load or whose average monthly maximum demand used for billing purposes is equal to or greater than 500 kW but less than 5,000 kW.

Large Use

This classification refers to the supply of electrical energy to General Service Customers requiring a connection with a connected load or 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 refers 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.

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 refers 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	\$	14.02
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0084
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kWh	0.0058
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0048
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

General Service Less Than 50 kW

Service Charge	\$	33.29
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0052
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kWh	0.0022
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0044
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0039
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 499 kW

Service Charge	\$	400.56
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	1.0642
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kW	0.3273
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kW	1.7787
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kW	1.5500
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 500 to 4,999 kW

Service Charge	\$	3,459.13
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	1.4652
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kW	0.5146
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kW	1.8891
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kW	1.6992
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	\$	8,609.67
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	0.7554
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kW	0.2774
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate – Interval Metered	\$/kW	2.0918
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate – Interval Metered	\$/kW	1.9431
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 customer)	\$	33.30
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0052
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kWh	0.0063
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0044
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0039
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)	\$	5.61
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	4.1996
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kW	7.0793
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kW	1.3483
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kW	1.2233
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)	\$	0.71
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	2.6431
Regulatory Asset Recovery	\$/kW	0.7115
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kW	1.3415
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kW	1.1983
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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Specific Service Charges

Customer Administration		
Arrears certificate	\$	15.00
Account set up charge/change of occupancy charge (plus credit agency costs if applicable)	\$	30.00
Returned Cheque (plus bank charges)	\$	15.00
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
Disconnect/Reconnect Charge - At Meter During Regular Hours	\$	65.00
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	1.0726
Total Loss Factor – Secondary Metered Customer > 5,000 kW	1.0145
Total Loss Factor – Primary Metered Customer < 5,000 kW	1.0619
Total Loss Factor – Primary Metered Customer > 5,000 kW	1.0045