



DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS

EB-2015-0006

Elimination of Load Transfer Arrangements – Proposed Amendments to Distribution System Code

BEFORE: Cathy Spoel
Presiding Member

Christine Long
Vice Chair and Member

July 13, 2016

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a Notice of Proposal to Amend a Code on February 20, 2015 (February 20th Notice) initiating a consultation to amend the Distribution System Code (DSC) related to the elimination of load transfer arrangements.

On April 14, 2016, the OEB issued its Decision on Cost Eligibility and granted the following persons cost award eligibility:

- Consumers Council of Canada (CCC)
- Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC)

(collectively, the EB-2015-0006 Eligible Participants).

In that Decision, the OEB stated that cost awards would be available under section 30 on the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (OEB Act) for the provision of comments on the proposed DSC amendments.

The maximum number of hours for each stage in this consultation process is set out below:

- eight (8) hours for written comments on proposed DSC amendments ([February 20th Notice](#))
- five (5) hours for written comments on *revised* proposed amendments to the DSC ([Notice issued on October 14, 2015](#))
- five (5) hours related to participation in a working group which was created to provide advice on rate mitigation alternatives ([Letter issued on May 26, 2016](#))

The total allowable maximum hours that could be claimed was therefore 18 hours.

- CCC filed a cost claim for 13 hours reflecting the maximum allowable hours for written comments on the proposed DSC amendments and participation in the working group. CCC's total cost claim was \$4,110.00 (excluding HST).
- VECC filed a cost claim for 12.5 hours related to the same two eligible activities. VECC's total cost claim was \$4,062.50 (excluding HST).
- Neither of the EB-2015-0006 Eligible Participants submitted comments on the *revised* proposed DSC amendments.

No objections were received in relation to cost claims from CCC and VECC.

In the May 11th Notice, the OEB determined that costs awarded would be recovered from rate-regulated licensed electricity distributors based on their respective distribution revenues. That apportionment was consistent with the methodology that was in place at the time for allocating costs for cost assessment purposes under section 26 of the OEB Act. On February 9, 2016, the OEB issued a [letter](#) giving notice of changes to its Cost Assessment Model. Specifically, under the revised Cost Assessment Model cost assessments for distributors are now based on customer numbers rather than revenues. The OEB considers it appropriate to apportion cost awards for this initiative in a manner consistent with the revised Cost Assessment Model, and has therefore determined that costs awarded will be apportioned within the distributor class based on customer numbers rather than revenues. This revised apportionment is reflected in Schedule A.

OEB Findings

The OEB notes that the cost claims filed by CCC and VECC are in accordance with both OEB Notices and the letter referenced above. The OEB finds that each of these EB-2015-0006 Eligible Participants is entitled to 100% of its reasonably incurred costs of participating in this proceeding.

Process for Paying the Cost Awards

The amount payable by each licensed electricity distributor in relation to costs awarded to each EB-2015-0006 Eligible Participant is listed in Schedule A to this Decision and Order. However, the amounts will not be paid directly by the distributor to the participant.

The OEB will use the process set out in section 12 of the *Practice Direction on Cost Awards* to implement the payment of the cost awards. Therefore, the OEB will act as a clearing house for all payments of cost awards relating to this consultation process. Invoices will be issued to distributors at the same time as the invoices for cost assessments are made under section 26 of the OEB Act. The practice of the OEB is to issue to each licensed distributor one invoice that covers all cost awards payable by the distributor for the relevant period. As a result, the invoice may cover cost awards payable in relation to a number of consultations, including this one.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:

1. Each distributor listed in Schedule A to this Decision and Order shall pay the amounts set out in Schedule A in relation to the costs awarded to each Eligible Participant.

2. Each distributor listed in Schedule A to this Decision and Order shall pay the OEB's costs of, and incidental to, this consultation.
3. The payments referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 shall be made to the OEB in accordance with the invoice issued to each distributor, and shall be due at the same time as cost assessments under section 26 of the OEB Act are due.

DATED at Toronto July 13, 2016

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary

Schedule A

OEB's Decision and Order on Cost Awards

EB-2015-0006

Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator	CCC	VECC	Total
Algoma Power Inc.	10.93	9.93	20.86
Atikokan Hydro Inc.	1.56	1.42	2.98
Attawapiskat Power Corp.	0.43	0.39	0.83
Bluewater Power Distribution Corporation	33.77	30.70	64.48
Brantford Power Inc.	36.17	32.89	69.06
Burlington Hydro Inc.	62.10	56.46	118.56
Energy + Inc.	58.36	53.06	111.42
Canadian Niagara Power Inc.	26.82	24.39	51.21
Centre Wellington Hydro Ltd.	6.29	5.71	12.00
Chapleau Public Utilities Corporation	1.18	1.07	2.24
Entegrus Powerlines Inc.	37.90	34.46	72.36
Collus PowerStream Corp.	15.15	13.77	28.92
Cooperative Hydro Embrun Inc.	1.85	1.68	3.53
E.L.K. Energy Inc.	11.03	10.03	21.06
Enersource Hydro Mississauga Inc.	187.44	170.42	357.86
Enwin Utilities Ltd.	80.83	73.49	154.32
Erie Thames Powerlines Corporation	17.16	15.60	32.76
Espanola Regional Hydro Distribution Corporation	3.10	2.82	5.92
Essex Powerlines Corporation	26.65	24.23	50.89
Festival Hydro Inc.	18.97	17.24	36.21
Fort Albany Power Corporation	0.26	0.24	0.50
Fort Frances Power Corporation	3.51	3.20	6.71
Greater Sudbury Hydro Inc.	44.17	40.16	84.33
Grimsby Power Incorporated	10.05	9.14	19.19
Guelph Hydro Electric Systems Inc.	49.08	44.62	93.70
Haldimand County Hydro Inc.	19.93	18.12	38.06
Halton Hills Hydro Inc.	20.00	18.19	38.19
Horizon Utilities Corporation	224.07	203.73	427.80
Hydro Hawkesbury Inc.	5.19	4.72	9.91
Hearst Power Distribution Company Limited	2.59	2.36	4.95
Hydro 2000 Inc.	1.14	1.04	2.18
Hydro One Brampton Networks Inc.	136.88	124.45	261.33
Hydro One Networks Inc.	1163.62	1057.96	2221.58
Hydro One Remote Communities Incorporated	3.32	3.02	6.34
Hydro Ottawa Limited	295.35	268.53	563.87
Innpower Corporation	14.46	13.14	27.60
Kashechewan Power Corporation	0.33	0.30	0.63
Kenora Hydro Electric Corporation Ltd.	5.22	4.75	9.97
Kingston Hydro Corporation	25.42	23.11	48.53
Kitchener-Wilmot Hydro Inc.	84.55	76.87	161.42
Lakefront Utilities Inc.	9.27	8.43	17.69
Lakeland Power Distribution Ltd.	12.41	11.28	23.69
London Hydro Inc.	141.82	128.95	270.77

Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator	CCC	VECC	Total
Midland Power Utility Corporation	6.58	5.98	12.56
Milton Hydro Distribution Inc.	31.77	28.88	60.65
Newmarket-Tay Power Distribution Ltd.	32.35	29.41	61.77
Niagara Peninsula Energy Inc.	48.20	43.82	92.02
Niagara-on-the-lake Hydro Inc.	7.98	7.25	15.23
North Bay Hydro Distribution Limited	22.51	20.46	42.97
Northern Ontario Wires Inc.	5.69	5.18	10.87
Oakville Hydro Electricity Distribution Inc.	61.16	55.60	116.76
Orangeville Hydro Limited	10.82	9.84	20.66
Orillia Power Distribution Corporation	12.43	11.30	23.72
Oshawa PUC Networks Inc.	50.71	46.11	96.82
Ottawa River Power Corporation	10.07	9.15	19.22
Peterborough Distribution Incorporated	33.59	30.54	64.13
Powerstream Inc.	325.53	295.97	621.50
PUC Distribution Inc.	31.27	28.43	59.69
Renfrew Hydro Inc.	3.97	3.61	7.58
Rideau St. Lawrence Distribution Inc.	5.50	5.00	10.50
St. Thomas Energy Inc.	15.44	14.03	29.47
Sioux Lookout Hydro Inc.	2.60	2.36	4.96
Thunder Bay Hydro Electricity Distribution Inc.	47.15	42.87	90.02
Tillsonburg Hydro Inc.	6.44	5.85	12.29
Toronto Hydro-Electric System Limited	687.68	625.23	1312.90
Veridian Connections Inc.	109.23	99.31	208.55
Wasaga Distribution Inc.	12.00	10.91	22.91
Waterloo North Hydro Inc.	50.77	46.16	96.92
Welland Hydro-Electric System Corp.	20.92	19.02	39.94
Wellington North Power Inc.	3.47	3.15	6.62
West Coast Huron Energy Inc.	3.54	3.22	6.76
Westario Power Inc.	21.32	19.39	40.71
Whitby Hydro Electric Corporation	38.68	35.17	73.85
Woodstock Hydro Services Inc.	14.59	13.27	27.86

TOTAL (including HST)	\$ 4,644.30	\$ 4,222.56	\$ 8,866.86
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