

MINISTER'S DIRECTIVE

TO: THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

I, Jim Wilson, Minister of Energy, Science and Technology, hereby direct the Ontario Energy Board (hereinafter referred to as "the Board") under section 27 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (hereinafter referred to as "the Act"), in order to protect consumers with respect to prices, as follows:

1. In making an order under section 78 of the Act approving or fixing just and reasonable rates for the distributing of electricity by a municipal electric utility, in being guided by the objectives set out in section 1 of the Act, the Board shall give primacy to the objective "to protect the interests of consumers with respect to prices and the reliability and quality of electricity service".
2. Before making an order under section 78 of the Act approving or fixing just and reasonable rates for the distributing of electricity by a municipal electric utility, the Board shall invite representations from the council of the municipal corporation or municipal corporations within the service area of the distributor.
3. This directive applies to every application for an order under section 78 of the Act that was not finally disposed of by the Board before this directive comes into force whether the application was made before or after this directive comes into force.
4. This directive is in effect until subsection 26(1) of the Electricity Act, 1998 comes into force or until a new order under section 78 of the Act takes effect, whichever is later.

5. In this directive, "municipal electricity utility" means,

- (a) a municipal corporation that distributes electricity directly,
- (b) a commission established under the *Public Utilities Act* or any other general or special Act through which a municipal corporation distributes electricity,
- (c) any other body, however established, through which a municipal corporation distributes electricity,
- (d) a corporation incorporated pursuant to section 142 of the *Electricity Act, 1998* for the purpose of distributing electricity, where a municipal corporation owns, directly or indirectly voting securities carrying more than 50 per cent of the voting rights attached to all voting securities of the corporation, or
- (e) Hydro One Inc.

[Original signed by]

Minister of Energy, Science and Technology

June 7, 2000