Ontario Energy Board Commission de l'Énergie de l'Ontario



EB-2006-0088 EB-2006-0089

IN THE MATTER OF the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, c. 15, Schedule B;

AND IN THE MATTER OF cost award eligibility for interested parties in a process to determine the rate-setting methods and techniques with respect to the cost of capital and the 2nd generation incentive regulation mechanism to be applied by the Board in determining electricity distribution rates effective May 1, 2007.

BEFORE: Gordon Kaiser Vice-Chair

> Paul Sommerville Board Member

Cynthia Chaplin Board Member

COST ELIGIBILITY ORDER

On April 27, 2006 the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") issued a letter to interested parties giving notice of the process that the Board intends to use in relation to two of the elements of the Board's multi-year electricity distribution rate setting plan: the review of the cost of capital and the development of a 2nd generation incentive regulation mechanism. That letter also notified interested parties that cost awards would be available to eligible persons under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* in relation to their participation in the consultative portion of this project, and that any costs awarded would be

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recovered from rate-regulated licensed electricity distributors. Appendix B to that letter set out certain parameters with respect to the activities that may be the subject of cost awards. Subsequent to that announcement, the Board issued two supplemental letters in relation to cost award matters. On June 29, 2006 the Board issued a letter that expanded the activities eligible for cost awards to cover an additional opportunity to make written comments on Board staff's draft proposals, including the submission of expert studies, as well as a technical conference. On July 7, 2006 the Board issued a further letter to inform participants about cost awards for eligible parties with common viewpoints that collaborate and pool their resources.

Twenty-five interested parties have indicated their interest in participating in this process. A list of all registered participants in this process is attached as Appendix A. The Board has also received notice from the following of their intention to request an award of costs:

- Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters;
- City of Toronto;
- Consumers Council of Canada;
- Energy Probe Research Foundation;
- Industrial Gas Users Association;
- London Property Management Association;
- School Energy Coalition; and
- Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition.

Electricity distributors were given an opportunity to file any objections they might have in relation to the eligibility of the above-noted participants for an award of costs. The Board did not receive any objections from distributors.

Based on the criteria set out in section 3 of the Board's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards,* the Board has determined that seven of the above-noted

participants are eligible for awards of costs in this process. The Board expects that those participants will make every effort to communicate and co-ordinate their participation in this process to the extent that they represent the same interests or class of persons.

The Board has determined that the City of Toronto, as the effective owner of an electricity distributor that is a participant in this process, is not eligible for cost awards.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

 the Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters, the Consumers Council of Canada, Energy Probe Research Foundation, the Industrial Gas Users Association, London Property Management Association, School Energy Coalition, and the Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition are eligible for an award of costs in this process.

ISSUED at Toronto, August 23, 2006.

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed by

Gordon Kaiser Vice-Chair

APPENDIX A

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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August 23, 2006

Multi-year Electricity Distribution Rate Setting Plan Cost of Capital (EB-2006-0088) and 2nd Generation Incentive Regulation Mechanism (EB-2006-0089)

PARTICIPANT LIST

		June 7, 2006
	Organization	Rep. And Address for Service
1.	Power Workers' Union (PWU)	Bob Menard Staff Officer, President's Office Power Workers' Union 244 Eglinton Avenue East Toronto, On M4P 1K2 Tel: 416-322-2441 Fax: 416-481-7914 e-mail <u>rmenard@pwu.ca</u>
	AND	Judy Kwik Senior Consultant Elenchus Research Associates (ERA) 34 King Street East, suite 610 Toronto, Ontario M5C 2X8 Tel 416-348-8777 Fax: 416-348-9930 e-mail jkwik@era-in.ca
	AND	Richard Stephenson Counsel Paliare Roland 250 University Avenue, Suite 510 Toronto, Ontario M5H 3E5 Tel: 416-646-4325 Fax: 416-646-4335 e-mail <u>RichardStephenson@paliareroland.com</u>
2.	Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters ("CME")	Malcolm Rowan CME Case Manager Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters 361 Lytton Blvd. Toronto, Ontario M5N 1R9 Tel: 416-482-6612 Fax: 416-482-8446 email: <u>malcolmrowan@sympatico.ca</u>

	Organization	
	Organization	Rep. And Address for Service
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9.	Individual participants	Thomas G. Weir 648 Cedarstone Road RR#1 Tamworth Ontario K0K 3G0 Tel: 613-379-2158 E-mail- liz.weir@sympatico.ca
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-	Chatham Kent Energy	Jim Hogan Chief Financial and Regulatory Officer Chatham-Kent Energy Inc. 320 Queen St. Chatham, Ontario N7M 5K2 Tel: 519-352-6300 Fax: 519-351-4059 e-mail: jimhogan@ckenergy.com

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Organization	Rep. And Address for Service
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