



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

VARY ORDER

EB-2019-0030

ENTEGRUS POWERLINES INC.

Order Varying the Decision and Rate Order issued on December 12, 2019

Application for rates and other charges for Entegrus - St.Thomas rate zone to be effective January 1, 2020, and for Entegrus - Main rate zone to be effective May 1, 2020

By Delegation, Before: Pascale Duguay

April 28, 2020

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) has, on its own motion, pursuant to section 41 of the OEB's *Rules of Practice and Procedure*, decided to review and vary its Decision and Rate Order in this proceeding issued on December 12, 2019 (Decision).

The Decision approved the incentive rate-setting mechanism application filed by Entegrus Powerlines Inc. for new rates effective January 1, 2020 for the "Entegrus - St. Thomas rate zone", and for new rates effective May 1, 2020 for the "Entegrus - Main rate zone". As noted in the Decision, the distributor will continue to operate the two rate zones until such time as rates are rebased.

On April 16, 2020, the OEB issued decisions and rate orders relating to the incentive rate-making applications filed by 31 distributors for new rates effective May 1, 2020. On the same day, the OEB issued a letter explaining its approach with regard to those decisions, stating that, in light of the uncertainty regarding the severity and duration of the COVID-19 emergency, distributors had been given the option to postpone implementation of their May 1, 2020 rates until November 1, 2020. Also therein, the OEB confirmed that the "implementation options and the guidance provided in this letter also apply to distributors who were issued an OEB Decision and Rate Order on December 12, 2019 for rates effective May 1, 2020 (EB-2019-0030 and EB-2019-0054)".

On April 23, 2020, Entegrus Powerlines Inc. filed a letter with the OEB advising that the utility is opting to postpone the implementation of the new rates for the Entegrus - Main rate zone to November 1, 2020. Entegrus Powerlines Inc. noted that postponement is in the best interest of these customers, and that this will not impact continuity and reliability of service.

In accordance with the Decision, the utility's new rates for the Entegrus - St. Thomas rate zone were implemented January 1, 2020.

THE PROCESS

The OEB has decided, pursuant to sections 6(4) and 21(4) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, to review and vary the Decision and Rate Order without a hearing as no person will be adversely impacted by the outcome of this proceeding.

OEB FINDINGS

The OEB finds that Entegrus Powerlines Inc.'s proposal is in the public interest. It is therefore necessary to vary the Decision, such that Entegrus Powerlines Inc. is authorized to postpone implementation of the new rates for the Entegrus - Main rate zone to November 1, 2020.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

The Decision and Order in EB-2019-0030, issued December 12, 2019, is varied such that paragraph 2 of the Order section is replaced, in its entirety, with the following:

2. Subject to paragraph 3, the Tariff of Rates and Charges set out in Schedule B of this Decision and Rate Order is approved effective May 1, 2020 for the Entegrus - Main rate zone for electricity consumed or estimated to have been consumed on and after such date.
3. In light of the COVID-19 emergency, Entegrus Powerlines Inc. is authorized to postpone the implementation of the Tariff of Rates and Charges set out in Schedule B of this Decision and Rate Order until November 1, 2020; and, any temporarily forgone distribution revenue associated with the postponement may be tracked in Account 1509 - Impacts Arising from the COVID-19 Emergency, Sub-account Lost Revenues.
4. Entegrus Powerlines Inc. shall notify its customers in the Entegrus - Main rate zone of the rate changes no later than the delivery of the first bill reflecting the new final rates.

DATED at Toronto April 28, 2020

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Christine E. Long
Registrar and Board Secretary