



EB-2008-0173

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND WRITTEN HEARING
FOR AN
ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION RATE CHANGE**

Espanola Regional Hydro Distribution Corporation

The Ontario Energy Board has received an application on November 11, 2008, under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, c. 15 (Schedule B), seeking approval for changes to the rates that Espanola Regional Hydro Distribution Corporation (“Espanola”) charges for electricity distribution, to be effective May 1, 2009. The Board has assigned the application file number EB-2008-0173. The Board’s decision on this application may have an effect on all of Espanola’s customers. The application was filed under the Board’s guidelines for 3rd Generation Incentive Regulation, which provides for a mechanistic and formulaic adjustment to rates between cost of service applications.

Any change to the rates that Espanola charges for electricity distribution will be reflected in the delivery charges. Delivery charges are one of four regular items on residential and general service customers’ electricity bills and vary depending on the amount of electricity consumed.

Espanola indicates that if the application is approved as filed, a residential customer consuming 1,000 kWh per month would experience an approximate 5.0% increase in delivery charges. This is a \$1.69 increase per month on the total bill. A small general service customer consuming 2,000 kWh per month and having a monthly demand of 50 kW or lower would experience an approximate 3.3% increase in delivery charges. This is a \$2.25 increase per month on the total bill.

How to see Espanola’s Application

Copies of the application are available for inspection at the Board’s office in Toronto and on its website, www.oeb.gov.on.ca, and at Espanola’s office and may be on its website.

How to Participate in the Rate Proceeding

The Board intends to proceed with Espanola's rate change application by way of written hearing unless a party satisfies the Board that there is good reason for holding an oral hearing. If you object to a written hearing in this matter, you must provide written reasons why an oral hearing is necessary. Any objections to a written hearing must be received by the Board and copied to the applicant at the addresses below no later than **December 23, 2008**. The Board will not be awarding costs in this matter.

Anyone who wishes information and material from the applicant that is in addition to the evidence filed with the Board and that is relevant to the hearing shall request it by written interrogatories filed with the Board and delivered to the applicant on or before **January 6, 2009**. The applicant shall file with the Board complete responses to the interrogatories and deliver them to all parties who asked interrogatories no later than **January 20, 2009**.

Anyone who wishes to make a submission on the application must file that written submission with the Board and deliver it to the applicant by **February 3, 2009**. If the applicant wishes to respond to the submission(s), the written response must be filed with the Board and delivered to all parties who made submissions by **February 17, 2009**.

How to File Documents with the Board

If you already have a user ID, please submit your interrogatories or submission through the Board's web portal at www.errr.oeb.gov.on.ca. Additionally, two paper copies are required. If you do not have a user ID, please visit the Board's website under e-filings and fill out a user ID password request. For instructions on how to file and naming conventions, please refer to the RESS Document Guidelines found at www.oeb.gov.on.ca, e-Filing Services. Those who do not have internet access are asked to submit their interrogatories or submission on a CD or diskette in PDF format, along with two paper copies. You may also send your submission by post or e-mail to the addresses below.

In responding to this Notice, please include Board file number EB-2008-0173 in the subject line of your e-mail or at the top of your document. It is also important that you provide your name, postal address and telephone number and, if available, an e-mail address and fax number. All communications should be directed to the attention of the

Board Secretary at the address below, and be received no later than 4:45 p.m. on the required date.

Need More Information?

Further information on how to participate may be obtained by visiting the Board's website at www.oeb.gov.on.ca or by calling our Consumer Relations Centre at 1-877-632-2727.

IMPORTANT

IF YOU DO NOT FILE AN OBJECTION TO A WRITTEN HEARING OR DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE PROCEEDING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS NOTICE, THE BOARD MAY PROCEED IN YOUR ABSENCE AND YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO FURTHER NOTICE IN THIS PROCEEDING.

ADDRESSES

The Board:

Post:
Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto ON M4P 1E4
Attention: Board Secretary

Filings: www.errr.oeb.gov.on.ca
E-mail: Boardsec@oeb.gov.on.ca

Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (toll free)
Fax: 416-440-7656

The Applicant:

Espanola Regional Hydro Distribution
Corporation
598 Second Avenue
Espanola ON P5E 1C4

E-mail: nclement@erhydro.com

DATED at Toronto, December 1, 2008

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary