



RP-2001-0029

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

AND IN THE MATTER OF an Application by Union Gas Limited for an order or orders approving or fixing just and reasonable rates and other charges for the sale, transmission, distribution, and storage of gas as of January 1, 2001, and January 1, 2002;

AND IN THE MATTER OF the customer review process and other mechanisms approved by the Ontario Energy Board in the RP-1999-0017 Decision with Reasons.

COST ORDER

The Assessment Officer, in a Recommendation dated November 28, 2002 assessed the Cost Award for the Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (“VECC”) at **\$ 74,847.34**.

By letter dated December 5, 2002 VECC filed an objection to the reduction in the rate allowed for Ms. Poon, stating that her rate had been approved at \$150/hr. in previous orders and that the rate submitted for this proceeding was increased to \$160/hr. due to her increased work experience.

The Board has reviewed the objection and is prepared to approve Ms. Poon’s rate at \$150/hr, not at the \$160/hr. submitted. The Board cautions VECC that presently the Board’s Cost Assessment Tariff for consultants is not based on experience but rather on classification.

THE BOARD THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:

Pursuant to section 30 of the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, Union Gas Limited shall immediately pay VECC the sum of \$ 78,786.81.

DATED at Toronto, December 16, 2002

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Paul B. Pudge
Board Secretary