



EB-2010-0018

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 Natural Resource Gas Limited for an Order or Orders approving or fixing just and reasonable rates and other charges for the sale, distribution, transmission and storage of gas commencing October 1, 2010.

AND IN THE MATTER OF an Application by Natural Resource Gas Limited for an Order or Orders approving a multi-year incentive rate mechanism plan.

BEFORE: Ken Quesnelle
Presiding Member

DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS
September 4, 2013

Background

Natural Resource Gas Limited (“NRG” or the “Applicant”) filed an Application, dated February 10, 2010, with the Ontario Energy Board under section 36 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, S.O. 1998, c.15, Schedule B. The Board assigned file number EB-2010-0018 to the Application. The Application sought approval for a revenue requirement and rates for the 2011 rate year, and for the approval of a four year Incentive Regulation Mechanism (“IRM”) for the period 2012-2015.

The Board issued a Decision and Order on December 6, 2010 that determined rates for the 2011 rate year (effective October 1, 2010). The Board also accepted NRG’s

request to address the IRM component of the Application for 2012 and beyond (and certain other discrete issues) in a second phase to the proceeding ("Phase 2").

The Board issued its Phase 2 Decision on May 17, 2012. With respect to gas purchased from NRG Corp., a related company, the Board ordered NRG to complete an independent study that looks at all viable alternatives and conduct a robust sensitivity analysis.

The Board did not provide any procedural process for filing cost claims as the Board envisioned further involvement of intervenors through the establishment of a steering committee consisting of NRG, Board staff and intervenors to facilitate the completion of the independent study.

VECC, the only intervenor approved for cost eligibility, filed a cost claim on June 6, 2012. Considering that the study had not been completed and considerable time had elapsed, the Board determined that it would consider the cost claim of VECC.

On July 10, 2013, the Board issued Procedural Order No. 11, in which it set out the process for NRG to object to any aspect of the cost claimed. Any responses to NRG's concerns were to be filed with the Board and NRG by July 31, 2013.

No comments were received from NRG.

Board Findings

The Board has reviewed VECC's cost claim. The Board finds that VECC is eligible for 100% of its reasonably incurred costs of participating in this proceeding. The Board finds that VECC's claim is reasonable and shall be reimbursed by NRG.

THE BOARD THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:

1. Pursuant to section 30 of the Ontario *Energy Board Act, 1998*, NRG shall immediately pay Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition \$14,993.35.
2. Pursuant to section 30 of the Ontario *Energy Board Act, 1998*, NRG shall pay

the Board's costs of and incidental to, this proceeding immediately upon receipt of the Board's invoice.

DATED at Toronto, September 4, 2013

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary