

George J. Orle Q.C.\*  
Gavin M. Wood \*  
Sarah R. McEachern

An Association of  
Independent Lawyers

\* Legal Services provided  
by a Law Corporation



**George J. Orle Q.C.**  
Direct Line 204.947.1830 ext. 308  
Email: gorle@woodorle.ca

March 1, 2016

The Public Utilities Board  
400-330 Portage Ave  
Winnipeg, MB  
R3C 0C4

Attention: Mr. Christle

Dear Sirs:

Re: MKO Budget for COSS

Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Inc. (MKO) is pleased to have been included as an intervener in the Hydro Cost of Service proceeding. Attached to this letter is our estimated budget for consideration by the Board.

In preparation for the budget process we have reviewed the proceedings from 2006 and as well we have met and discussed the legal needs and resources which will be brought forward on behalf of MKO with other intervenors.

In particular the writer has met with Mr. Williams and discussed with him the process for this Cost of Service study and how it compared to not only the previous Cost of Service study in 2006 but to the most recent three previous Hydro hearings before this Board.

We are in complete agreement with the manner in which the Consumer Coalition has set out the concerns and impact of the change to the Cost of Service study procedure. We adopt those concerns on behalf of our client MKO.

In making an estimate as to the time required to responsibly represent MKO, the writer used his experience in the general area of civil litigation and in particular the time required to properly prepare for a complex and significant civil trial. It has been our experience that for each day of trial or date of hearing, at least two full working days of preparation are required.

In reviewing our budgets and the legal fees claimed on the last three hearings which we have been involved in, this rule of thumb has proven to be reasonably accurate. Given the fact that there has not been a Cost of Service study since 2006, we are of the opinion that time estimates would necessarily be at the higher range as opposed to the lower range.

Attached to this letter is our budget for legal counsel. We've estimated 192 hours for preparation based upon two eight hour days of preparation for each day of hearing. We have estimated 12 days of hearing at 8 hours per day. Our total estimate is 288 hours at the senior counsel rate of \$285 per hour for a total of \$82,080.00. We are estimating disbursements solely for deliveries and photocopy of transcripts and exhibits. Our rough estimate is \$3,000.00.

Up until this weekend, we thought that MKO would be able to retain the services of Mr. Dale Hildebrand of Deserata Energy Consulting to act as our expert. Yesterday Mr. Hildebrand advised me that he is not available for the Cost of Service study proceeding. He will be providing us with the names of several other experts that he is aware of that can provide the expertise which MKO requires. MKO intends to work with other intervenors and to adopt those portions of the experts reports which are appropriate to MKO. However there are certain considerations because of the nature of MKO's intervener status that must be dealt with by a person with both expertise and knowledge of the MKO circumstances. MKO does not believe that the expert to be retained will require the same amount of time and resources which are being sought by the Consumer Coalition and is asking that at this point the Board accept that MKO will be obtaining an expert and that it is expected that the budget for that expert would not exceed 50% of the budget for the Consumer Coalition expert.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "G. J. Orle".

George J. Orle Q.C.

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Prepare and meet with PUB counsel; Initial review and research of COSS materials and process; Receive, review and respond to general correspondence; Liaise with PUB and other counsel; Meet with intervenors to coordinate intervention; Prepare for and attend Pre-hearing conference; Prepare budget estimate; Review prior Board Order; Review materials from prior COSS and key authorities; Review NARUC Manual;	60.0
Liaise with and meet with experts; Liaise with and meet with client; Review Application; Review Draft IRs; Prepare for Workshop #1	30.0
Review IR Responses; Attend Workshop #1; Report to client and follow up evidence; deal with expert on results from workshop	20.0
Liaise with expert and review expert evidence; Review evidence of other intervenors; Prepare for Workshop #2 Attend Workshop #2; Report to client and review undertakings	30.0
Prepare for and attend Pre-hearing Conference	32.0
Prepare written submission on concurrent evidence Prepare oral submissions Attend submissions and deliver oral submissions	
Prepare written submission on non-concurrent evidence Prepare cross-examination and <i>voir dire</i> ; Prepare expert Attend oral hearing	116.0
<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>	<b>288.0</b>
<b>TOTAL FEES 288 HRS @\$285.00</b>	<b>\$82,080.00</b>
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>