



News Release

September 4, 2009

By 126/09, the Public Utilities Board (PUB) responds to Manitoba Hydro's (MH) *ex parte* application for a concession program for large industrial and commercial firms experiencing difficulty as a result of demand reductions associated with the recent global recession.

PUB varies MH's application and provides for partial bill payment deferrals, with interest at MH's short-term interest rate, for firms meeting specific criteria for all or a portion of the period June 1, 2009 through to and including March 31, 2010. The deferral of a portion of qualifying firms' bills is expected to provide cash flow assistance to qualifying firms, and allow cash that would otherwise been required to meet Hydro bills to be put to more pressing requirements

A subsequent public proceeding will include a review of the interim relief provided for in this Order and result in either the confirmation, repeal, amendment or extension of the bill payment deferral program.

A copy of this Order, and past Orders containing related information, may either be reviewed on the Board's website www.pub.gov.mb.ca, or obtained from the Board's Office.

The Public Utilities Board
400 – 330 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0C4
Telephone: (204) 945-2638
Facsimile: (204) 945-2643
Toll Free: 1-866-854-3698
Email: publicutilities@gov.mb.ca