CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

APPENDIX  E

Economic Evaluation of an Expansion

July 2013
Methodology for Calculating the Economic Evaluation of an Expansion

If Horizon Utilities is connecting a new Customer load to Horizon Utilities’ distribution system facilities or upgrade a connection to an existing Customer, and an expansion of Horizon Utilities’ distribution system is required, Horizon Utilities will perform an economic evaluation of the expansion project to determine if the future revenue from the Customer(s) will pay for the costs pertaining to the expansion.

Factors that are used in calculating the economic evaluation of the project include but are not limited to:

1. ongoing operating, maintenance & administration costs (either actually incurred or apportioned in the manner set forth below), also referred to as “OM&A Costs”

3. the proportionate share (based on load and line length) of the distribution system expansion capital cost, also referred to as “New Expansion Costs” and/or a proportionate share (based on load and line length) of existing expansions constructed within the past five years

4. the basic cost of connection outlined in the Conditions of Service Appendix I, also referred to as “Basic Connection Costs”

(Expansion Costs and Basic Connection Costs, are collectively referred to as “Expansion Fees”.)

Horizon Utilities includes in the economic evaluation all capital expenditures associated with the expansion of new distribution facilities when required to accommodate new Customer loading. The expansion shall meet all of the following criteria:

- are required to accommodate new Customer load; and
- are not intended to be serving other Customers, other than un-forecasted Customers; and
- are consistent with Horizon Utilities’ planning, design and construction standards.

For the purpose of determining OM&A Costs, Horizon Utilities will use customer class average operating, maintenance and administrative expenditures as a proxy for incremental OM&A expenditures and apportion them as fixed costs per Customer (for Rate Class 1 and 2, Residential and small commercial) or as a function of $/kW of demand (for Rate Class 3, 4, and 5, over 50 kW, large use, street lighting).

The Expansion Fees are in addition to any Variable Connection Fees. Refer to the Conditions of Service Appendix D for each Customer Class.

For the purpose of establishing the estimated incremental demand to be used in the economic evaluation, the Customer shall provide a valid estimate of the proposed incremental demand for evaluation and acceptance by Horizon Utilities. If the Customer and Horizon Utilities are unable to agree on a valid incremental demand for new Class 3, 4, and 5 Customers or in the absence of adequate billing history for existing Customers who are requesting a service upgrade, Horizon Utilities will set the estimated incremental demand to equal 90 per cent of the “incremental installed transformer capacity”.
Using the estimated incremental demand, Horizon Utilities shall then calculate the estimated incremental revenues of new Customers using the “fixed charge” and the “variable charge” that have been approved by the Ontario Energy Board for the Rate Class applicable to each individual new meter installed in connection with the expansion project.

In performing the economic evaluation, should the Net Present Value (NPV) of the costs and revenues associated with the expansion be less than zero, a capital contribution in the amount of the shortfall is required. Horizon Utilities will collect this shortfall from the Customer at the time the CCRA is signed in addition to any deposits and securities applicable.

The amount charged by Horizon Utilities to a generator to construct the expansion to connect a generation facility to the Horizon Utilities distribution system shall not exceed the generator’s share of the present value of the projected capital costs and ongoing OM&A maintenance costs for the project. Projected revenue and avoided costs from the generation facility shall be assumed to be zero, unless otherwise determined by rates approved by the Ontario Energy Board. The methodology and inputs that Horizon Utilities will use to calculate this amount are presented in Appendix B of the Distribution System Code.