

THE ISLAND REGULATORY AND APPEALS COMMISSION

Prince Edward Island Île-du-Prince-Édouard CANADA

Docket UE21315 Order UE16-05

IN THE MATTER of an

application by Maritime Electric Company, Limited, under Section 12(1) of the Electric Power Act (R.S.P.E.I. 1988, Cap. E-4), for approval of the issuance of first mortgage bonds.

BEFORE THE COMMISSION

on Tuesday, the 28th day of June, 2016.

J. Scott MacKenzie Q.C., Chair Douglas Clow, CPA, CA, Vice-Chair John Broderick, Commissioner Michael Campbell, Commissioner

Order

Compared and Certified a True Copy

Director, Corporate Services

IN THE MATTER of an

application by Maritime Electric Company, Limited, under Section 12(1) of the Electric Power Act (R.S.P.E.I. 1988, Cap. E-4), for approval of the issuance of first mortgage bonds.

Order

WHEREAS, Maritime Electric Company Limited ("Maritime Electric" or the "Company") is a public utility under the *Electric Power Act* ("EPA" or the "Act") engaged in the production,

<u>Electric Power Act</u> ("EPA" or the "Act") engaged in the production, purchase, transmission and distribution and sale of electricity within Prince Edward Island:

AND WHEREAS, on June 14, 2016 the Company filed an application with this Commission for the issuance of up to \$40 million in long term first mortgage bonds;

AND WHEREAS, Section 12(1) of the Act reads as follows: no public utility shall issue stocks or shares or bonds, debentures, securities, or other evidence of indebtedness, payable in more than one year from the date thereof, unless it has first obtained approval by the Commission of the proposed issue;

AND WHEREAS, the Company states in its application it requires the funds to refinance approximately \$12 million of bonds maturing in August 2016 and to convert approximately \$28 million of short term indebtedness incurred by the Company to finance normal business activities and the Company's capital program previously approved by the Commission;

AND WHEREAS, the Company's most recent rate application approved by Commission Order UE16-04 took into consideration the anticipated interest rate for this bond issuance:

 $AND\ WHEREAS, \ \ the\ Commission\ has\ reviewed$ the application and supporting material and finds the issuance of \$40 million first mortgage bonds is a just and reasonable approach to present long term financing requirements of the Company at this time;

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the *Island*Regulatory and Appeals Commission Act and the Electric Power
Act.

IT IS ORDERED THAT

- Approval is hereby granted for the Company to proceed with negotiations for issuance of first mortgage bonds provided that:
 - a. the principal amount of this issue is not to exceed \$40.0 million,
 - b. the debt issue is not to mature later than 40 years; and
 - c. the coupon interest rate must be established through a competitive market pricing process.
- Upon completion of negotiations with potential bond holders, the Company shall file with the Commission the Private Placement Summary Term Sheet as approved by the Company's Board of Directors.
- 3. The Company shall file an opinion from its legal counsel that the issue is made in accordance with every Act or regulation relating to the issue of securities.
- 4. Upon receipt of the information set out above, the Commission will issue its final decision on this matter.

June 28, 2018

DATED at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, this 28th day of June, 2016.

BY THE COMMISSION:

J. Scott MacKenzie Q.C., Chair

Douglas Clow, CPA, CA, Vice-Chair

John Broderick, Commissioner

Michael Campbell, Commissioner

NOTICE

Section 12 of the Island Regulatory and Appeals Commission Act reads as follows:

12. The Commission may, in its absolute discretion, review, rescind or vary any order or decision made by it or rehear any application before deciding it.

Parties to this proceeding seeking a review of the Commission's decision or order in this matter may do so by filing with the Commission, at the earliest date, a written Request for Review, which clearly states the reasons for the review and the nature of the relief sought.

Sections 13.(1), 13(2), 13(3), and 13(4) of the Act provide as follows:

- 13.(1) An appeal lies from a decision or order of the Commission to the Court of Appeal upon a question of law or jurisdiction.
- (2) The appeal shall be made by filing a notice of appeal in the Court of Appeal within twenty days after the decision or order appealed from and the rules of court respecting appeals apply with the necessary changes.
- (3) The Commission shall be deemed to be a party to the appeal.
- (4) No costs shall be payable by any party to an appeal under this section unless the Court of Appeal, in its discretion, for special reasons, so orders.

IRAC140A(04/07)

June 28, 2016