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**BY E-MAIL AND WEB POSTING**

October 24, 2016

**TO: Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc.  
Union Gas Limited  
Natural Resource Gas Limited  
All Other Interested Parties**

**RE: Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards  
Consultation to Develop a Regulatory Framework to Assess Natural Gas  
Distributors' Cap and Trade Compliance Plans  
(Board File No. EB-2015-0363)**

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## **Background**

The OEB initiated a consultation to develop a regulatory framework for the natural gas distributors' activities under Ontario's Cap and Trade program which included cost awards for eligible persons under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* for participation in certain activities.

With the issuance of the Report of the Board: The Regulatory Framework for the Assessment of Costs of Natural Gas Utilities' Cap and Trade Activities on September 26, 2016, the OEB concluded this consultation and the cost-eligible activities as set out in Appendix A of this Notice.

## **Cost Award Eligible Participants**

In its *Decision on Cost Award Eligibility* and *updated Decision on Cost Award Eligibility* dated April 22, 2016 and April 29, 2016 respectively, the OEB determined that the following participants (together, the "eligible participants") were eligible to apply for an award of costs in this consultation process:

- Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario (AMPCO)
- Association of Power Producers of Ontario (APPrO)
- Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA)
- Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME)
- Consumers Council of Canada (CCC)
- Energy Probe
- Environmental Defence
- Federation of Rental-housing Providers of Ontario (FRPO)
- Green Energy Coalition (GEC)
- Industrial Gas Users Association (IGUA)
- London Property Management Association
- Low-Income Energy Network
- Ontario Association of Physical Plant Administrators (OAPPA)
- Ontario Federation of Agriculture
- Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers (OGVG)
- Ontario Mining Association
- Ontario Sustainable Energy Association
- School Energy Coalition (SEC)
- Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC)

### **Notice of Hearing**

The OEB is initiating a hearing on its own motion in order to determine the cost awards to parties identified above that are eligible for costs.

The OEB intends to proceed by way of written hearing unless a party can satisfy the OEB that there is a good reason for not holding a written hearing. If a party wants to object to a written hearing, the objection must be received by the OEB no later than **7 days** after the date of this Notice. Assuming that the OEB does not receive any objections to a written hearing, the hearing will follow the process set out below.

1. Eligible participants shall submit their cost claims by **November 7, 2016**. The cost claim must be filed with the OEB and one copy is to be served on each rate regulated natural gas utility (Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc., Union Gas Ltd., Natural Resource Gas Ltd.). The cost claims must be completed in accordance with section 10 of the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

2. Rate regulated natural gas utilities will have until **November 21, 2016** to object to any aspect of the costs claimed. The objection must be filed with the OEB and one copy must be served on the eligible participant against whose claim the objection is being made.
3. The eligible participant whose cost claim was objected to will have until **November 28, 2016** to file with the OEB a reply submission as to why its cost claim should be allowed. One copy of the reply submission is to be served on the objecting party.
4. The OEB will then issue its decision on cost awards. The OEB's costs may also be addressed in the cost awards decision.

Service of cost claims, objections and reply submissions on other parties may be effected by courier, registered mail, facsimile or e-mail.

Parties must file two paper copies and one electronic copy of their filings with the Board Secretary by **4:45 pm** on the required dates. The OEB requests that parties make every effort to provide electronic copies of their filings in searchable / unrestricted Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format, and to submit their filings through the OEB's web portal at <https://www.pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/> . A user ID is required to submit documents through the OEB's web portal. If you do not have a user ID, please visit the "e-filings services" webpage on the OEB's website at [www.ontarioenergyboard.ca](http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca) , and fill out a user ID password request. Additionally, interested parties are requested to follow the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the document entitled "RESS Document Preparation – A Quick Guide" also found on the e-filing services webpage. If the OEB's web portal is not available, electronic copies of filings may be filed by e-mail at [boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca](mailto:boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca) . Persons that do not have internet access should provide a CD or diskette containing their filing in PDF format.

All filings must quote file number **EB-2015-0363** and include your name, address, e-mail address, telephone number, and fax number.

All filings in this hearing (i.e., cost claims, objections, or replies), will form part of the public record. Copies of the filings will be available for inspection at the OEB's office and the filings may be published on the OEB's website.

**If you do not file a letter objecting to a written hearing or do not participate in the hearing by filing written materials in accordance with this Notice, the OEB may**

**proceed without your participation and you will not be entitled to further notice in this proceeding.**

**Dated** at Toronto, October 24, 2016

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

*Original signed by*

Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary

**Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards Dated October 24, 2016**

**Consultation to Develop a Regulatory Framework to Assess Natural Gas  
Distributors' Cap and Trade Compliance Plans  
(Board File No. EB-2015-0363)**

**Appendix A**

Cost awards will be available in relation to:

ACTIVITY	TOTAL ELIGIBLE HOURS PER PARTICIPANT
Preparation for, attendance at, and reporting on a half-day stakeholder meeting (3 hour meeting, 3 hour preparation time)	Up to 6 hours*
Written comments on Staff Discussion Paper	Up to 24 hours

\* In the OEB's March 10, 2016 letter, a full day stakeholder meeting with preparation time (i.e., up to 11 hours) was contemplated. However, a half day (3-hour) stakeholder meeting was held.