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VIA E-MAIL AND POSTING

April 05, 2018

**To: All Licensed Electricity Transmitters
All Licensed Electricity Distributors
All Licensed Gas Distributors
All Other Interested Parties**

Re: Establishment of the Cyber Security Advisory Committee (CSAC)

OEB File Number: EB-2016-0032

On March 15, 2018, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a [Notice of Amendments](#) to the Transmission System Code and the Distribution System Code, to establish regulatory requirements for licensed transmitters and distributors to provide the OEB with information on the actions they are taking relative to their cyber security readiness. The Amendments rely on the establishment and ongoing evolution of the industry developed [Ontario Cyber Security Framework](#) (Framework).

In the Notice, the OEB stated that it expects the sector to work through an appropriate industry-led forum to evolve the Framework in a collaborative manner. While it is to be an industry-led process, some stakeholders have looked to the OEB to help guide its implementation. Through this letter, the OEB wants to facilitate the establishment of the CSAC by inviting members of its Cyber Security Working Group (CSWG), and other interested parties to form the initial membership.

Cyber Security Advisory Committee

The CSAC is expected to be an industry-sponsored committee that will improve the Framework, as guided by the sector's best practices. To accomplish this and the objective of ensuring that the industry maintains and evolves the Framework, the industry should define the membership of the CSAC. Given the work of the CSWG in developing the Framework and its subsequent identification of potential modifications and improvements, the members of that group seem particularly prepared to participate in the CSAC. OEB

staff will participate as an observer in the CSAC meetings to provide a conduit to the OEB for any issues or questions regarding the OEB's policy expectations.

Early steps in developing the CSAC are expected to focus on establishing terms of reference, governance and change management process to enable industry evolving the Framework in a manner acceptable to licensed transmitters and distributors.

The committee is expected to address the following activities, in order to provide the sector with a transparent process for managing the Framework's evolution:

- i. terms of reference to articulate CSAC's objectives and governance;
- ii. establish a methodology, tools, and mechanisms for the:
 - o proposal of changes;
 - o a methodology to modify the Framework; and
 - o an acceptance process for licensed transmitters and distributors to review and approve changes
- iii. seek best practices to inform potential improvements to the Framework;
- iv. Incorporate Industry experiences, best practice controls to identify risk areas to assess the likelihood of the cyber-attack and its impact on Ontario's energy sector in order to adjust the level of risk.

Invitation to Participate

The OEB is inviting participation by other licensed transmitters, distributors and stakeholders in the CSAC. We ask that you express your interest to join the CSAC by sending an email to stuart.wright@oeb.ca by April 20, 2018. Your email should identify your knowledge and expertise regarding cyber security, as well as information regarding your current role within your organization. If you represent an entity other than a licensed distributor or transmitter please explain your organization's connection to the electricity sector and reasons for interest in the Framework and CSAC. These expressions of interest will be provided to the initial CSAC for consideration for membership.

Membership in the CSAC may require security clearance and consent to confidentiality and disclosure requirements. Those interested in participating should indicate their ability to comply if required

If you have questions relating to this letter, please contact Stuart Wright at stuart.wright@oeb.ca or at 416-440-7683. The OEB's toll-free number is 1-888-632-6273.

Yours truly,

Original signed by

Brian Hewson
Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance