

May 31, 2019

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street
P.O. Box 2319
Toronto, Ontario
M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

Re: EB-2019-0003 – Post -2020 Natural Gas Demand Side Management Framework Consultation Process

I am a consultant to the Consumers Council of Canada (“Council”). I have been instructed by my client to indicate our intent to participate in the consultation process initiated by the Ontario Energy Board (“OEB”) to develop a Demand Side Management (“DSM”) framework for natural gas distributors beginning in 2020. The Council is a public-interest entity which represents the interests of residential consumers in Ontario. The Board’s decisions regarding DSM will ultimately impact the rates that residential consumers pay for the delivery of natural gas. They will also determine the availability of DSM programs for residential consumers.

On December 10, 2018, the Council filed with the Board, pursuant to Rule 22.03 of the Ontario Energy Board’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, a document describing the Council, its mandate and objectives, membership, the constituency represented, and the types of activities the Council carries out. In addition, we provided a list of the individuals authorized to represent the Council in Board proceedings.

The nature and scope of the Council’s intended participation in the first phase of the consultation will be the following:

1. To attend the Stakeholder Meeting on June 13, 2019; and
2. To provide comments to the OEB following the meeting on the requested topics.

The Council will participate in the other phases of the consultation process, which will be defined at a later date.

The Council intends to ask for an order of costs in this proceeding. The Council has participated in many natural gas proceedings and consultation processes over a long period of time. In all of those proceedings and consultation processes the Council has been recognized as being eligible for an award of costs. In the absence of an award of costs the Council would be unable to participate in this process.

Copies of all correspondence related to this process should be sent to:

Julie Girvan
62 Hillside Avenue East
Toronto, ON
M4S 1T5
jgirvan@uniserve.com

Please let us know if any further information from the Council is required at this time.

Yours truly,

Julie E. Girvan

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CC: Ken Whitehurst, Consumers Council of Canada