

# **Aiken & Associates**

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March 20, 2009

Ms. Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary  
Ontario Energy Board  
2300 Yonge Street  
Suite 2700  
Toronto, Ontario, M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

## **Re: EB-2009-0084 – The Cost of Capital in Current Economic and Financial Market Conditions**

This letter is in response to the Board's March 16, 2009 letter related to The Cost of Capital in Current Economic and Financial Market Conditions (EB-2009-0084). Three paper copies have been provided to the Board and an electronic version has been filed through the Board's web portal at [www.errr.oeb.gov.on.ca](http://www.errr.oeb.gov.on.ca).

### **Statement of Interest**

The London Property Management Association ("LPMA") is a non-profit organization whose overall goal is to help property managers and those who own/operate residential income properties in the City of London and surrounding communities. The LPMA offers information and assistance to its members to help them deal with the legislation, rules and regulations that affect their business.

LPMA is made up of approximately 350 members ranging from single unit owners to managers and owners of in excess of 2,000 units. The membership consists of a representative cross section of the rental property owners in the London area. In total, the LPMA members own or manage more than 35,000 rental units in the London area.

LPMA members receive regulated natural gas and electricity service primarily from Union Gas and London Hydro. LPMA wishes to participate in this consultation process because the Board's determination in this consultative process may have an effect on the prices to be paid by the LPMA members that currently receive regulated distribution services from gas and electricity distributors.

### **Written Comments**

LPMA will be filing written comments on the issues identified in the Board letter.

### **Cost Eligibility**

LPMA is requesting that the Board determine that the LPMA is eligible for a cost award for all activities related to this proceeding.

LPMA submits that it is eligible to apply for a cost award based on section 3.03 (a) of the Practice Direction on Cost Awards. In particular, LPMA "primarily represents the direct interests of consumers (e.g. ratepayers) in relation to regulated services". The Board has found the LPMA to be eligible for cost awards in numerous natural gas and electricity proceedings before the Board.

As a non-profit organization, LPMA does not have access to any other funding sources. LPMA relies on the cost awards it receives from the Board to effectively participate in, and assist the Board, in these regulatory proceedings.

### **Costs of an Expert**

As part of Attachment A to the March 16, 2009 letter, the Board indicated that the name and credentials of any lawyer, analyst or consultant that may be retained should be provided, if known. LPMA advises the Board that it will be retaining Mr. Randy Aiken of Aiken & Associates to represent it in this process.

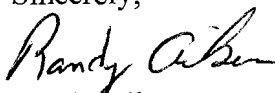
### **Communications**

All communications related to this process should be directed to:

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Sincerely,



Randy Aiken  
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