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May 19, 2009

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ONTARIO ENERGY BD

Dear Ms. Walli,

I am writing to nominate Mr. Rob Maxwell for a position on the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) Conservation Working Group.

Mr. Rob Maxwell – Experience and Qualifications

Mr. Maxwell is currently employed by the City of Toronto as the Manager of Sustainable Energy Funds, or SEFs. He was responsible for developing the SEFs, a \$62 million program which provides zero-interest financing for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects in the institutional sector in Toronto. Mr. Maxwell has also served as the Acting Manager of the City's Energy Efficiency Office, where he helped negotiate the contract for the City's 90 MW electricity conservation program with the Ontario Power Authority. Prior to that, he was the interim Director of the Toronto Atmospheric Fund, a city agency which provides funding for leading-edge climate change initiatives.

Most recently, Mr. Maxwell led the development of a proposed new City energy funding program, which will be considered for approval by City Council in June. Known as Home Energy Assistance Toronto (HEAT), this program will provide additional incentive payments to Toronto homeowners for insulation work undertaken through the federal EcoENERGY for Homes program. If approved, HEAT will also contain a separate funding mechanism to assist low-income homeowners who may not have the ability to provide the upfront retrofit spending that is required to participate in EcoENERGY. The City will be interested in learning of opportunities for coordinating its low income program with other agencies who are involved in this area, through the working group process.

Through his work, Mr. Maxwell has developed knowledge of both demand side management for natural gas, and of the role of the Ontario Energy Board in regulating utilities in Ontario. I believe Mr. Maxwell's background in energy financing programs, and his experience in municipal government, will serve the OEB and the LEAP Conservation Working Group well.

Represented City Constituencies and Interests

As a member of the LEAP Conservation Working Group the nominee of the City of Toronto would be representative of low-income and other ratepayers, environmental interests, social service providers, and municipal government.

Social Services

Since 1998, Toronto Employment and Social Services Division (TSS), on behalf of the City of Toronto, has been responsible for administering and managing the Ontario Works program in accordance with provincial legislation. OW has two main components: employment assistance and financial assistance which provides support for basic necessities such as food, shelter and clothing.

The City of Toronto is the 4th largest delivery agent of social assistance in Canada. In 2006, the division delivered over \$600 million in direct financial assistance and more than \$55 million in employment services and supports to an average of 1 in 11 Toronto residents or 230,000 people. This, in conjunction with major reforms over the past 20 years to other public employment and income support programs in Canada such as Employment Insurance, has resulted in a municipally-delivered social assistance system in Ontario that has gone from a program of last resort to one of only resort for a significant portion of Toronto's unemployed and under-employed residents.

Low Income Ratepayers – Social and Affordable Housing

The Social Housing Unit of the Shelter, Support and Housing Administration (SSHA) Division is responsible for the funding and administration of social housing programs in the City of Toronto. Part of this funding is to subsidize non-profit housing providers' operating costs, which include the cost of utilities where the tenant does not pay for such service directly.

Social housing refers to non-profit or co-operative housing communities where some or all the rents are subsidized. Subsidized households pay about 30% of gross income on shelter; the amount of the rent-geared to income is adjusted if the household is responsible for paying of the cost of gas or electricity. Social Housing Unit staff administer more than 90,000 units of social housing in Toronto.

Energy Purchasing

The Energy and Waste Management Office (EWMO) of the City's Facilities and Real Estate Division is responsible for procuring energy for use in City owned facilities, including a substantial portion of the public housing owned by Toronto Community Housing Corporation. The EWMO is the City of Toronto's centre of expertise for internal energy conservation and waste management programs. The EWMO works with City Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Divisions to help them meet City Council's energy reduction and waste diversion goals. Natural gas purchasing activities address about 1,150 accounts totalling about 88 million cubic meters of gas annually; and electricity purchases address about 4,000 accounts totalling about 2 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity annually.

Environmental Interests

Toronto's Climate Change, Clean Air and Sustainable Energy Action Plan will see the City of Toronto and its residents, businesses and communities take action to cut greenhouse gas emissions, clean the air and create a sustainable energy future.

The plan was crafted with substantial public and stakeholder input and is designed to achieve and exceed the Kyoto greenhouse gas reduction target.

In addition to actions to green the City's internal operations, the plan outlines a number of actions that will benefit residents, businesses and community groups including:

- a Live Green Toronto program to encourage Torontonians to adopt more environmentally friendly lifestyles and reduce energy use at home, work and on the road
- a framework to renew Toronto's concrete high-rise residential buildings
- a pilot program for residential solar hot water heating
- a "one-window" source of information on federal, provincial, municipal, private sector and community programs related to energy and the environment
- community energy planning
- the development of a strategy to adapt to climate change

The plan calls for initial funding of \$42 million for energy conservation measures, \$20 million for renewable energy projects and \$22 million for retrofitting City facilities.

Please be advised that, should Mr. Maxwell be selected, the City may be seeking cost awards under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* for his participation in the working group. The OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards* states:

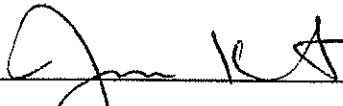
3.03 A party in a Board process is eligible to apply for a cost award where the party:

(b) primarily represents a public interest relevant to the Board's mandate

For the reasons describe above, I believe the interest of the City of Toronto in this matter represents a public interest. The name and credentials of any lawyer, analyst or consultant that the City may retain is as yet unknown.

I hope the Board will consider his nomination carefully.

Sincerely,



Jim Kamstra
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Facilities and Real Estate Division
City of Toronto

