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BY E-MAIL AND WEB POSTING

October 9, 2009

**To: All Natural Gas Distributors
All Electricity Distributors
All Participants in Consultation Process EB-2008-0150
All Other Interested Parties**

**Re: Consultation on Energy Issues Relating to Low-Income Consumers
(EB-2008-0150)
Final Report of the Financial Assistance Working Group**

The purpose of this letter is to update natural gas and electricity distributors and other interested stakeholders on the work of the Financial Assistance Working Group.

On March 10, 2009, the Board issued its “Report of the Board: Low-income Energy Assistance Program” (LEAP) which describes policies and measures for electricity and natural gas distributors to assist low-income energy consumers.

On September 28, 2009 the Board issued a letter providing a status update on the LEAP initiative. As part of this letter the Board indicated that the Minister of Energy and Infrastructure has requested that the Board not proceed to implement new support programs for low-income energy consumers in advance of a ministerial direction. The Board also advised that the Ministry plans to develop a province-wide program, which would build upon the work the Board has undertaken to date.

To that end, the Board is releasing today the “Report on the Proposed Framework for Low-Income Emergency Financial Assistance: Final Report of the Emergency Financial Assistance Working Group to the Ontario Energy Board”, which the Board believes will be of interest to stakeholders and the Ministry. The report is posted on the Board’s website.

The Board would like to thank the members of the Financial Assistance Working Group for their efforts and contributions. The Board will be working with the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure as it moves forward with its work.

Yours truly,

Original Signed By

John Pickernell
Assistant Board Secretary