E-mail rwarren@weirfoulds.com Direct Line 416-947-5075 File 10606



Kirsten Walli, Secretary Ontario Energy Board 26th Floor 2300 Yonge Street Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

October 9, 2007

Dear Ms Walli:

Re: Hydro Ottawa Limited/Your File Number EB-2007-0713 Letter of Intervention of the Consumers Council of Canada (the "CCC")

We are counsel to the CCC.

We have been instructed by our client to intervene in the application of Hydro Ottawa Limited for a change in its distribution rates.

The CCC is a non-profit, public interest entity, representing the interests of residential consumers of electricity in Ontario, including ratepayers in Hydro Ottawa Limited's distribution area. The outcome of the application will have a direct impact on residential consumers of electricity in that area.

This application is particularly important because the outcome may set the base for an incentive regulation regime. For the duration of such a regime, ratepayers will have only limited information about the operations of the applicant. It is, therefore, essential that the application be considered in an open and transparent process, and that ratepayers have an opportunity to test, as thoroughly as possible, the evidence on which the rates will be based for several years. Those considerations militate strongly in favour of an oral hearing.

The CCC recognizes that considerations of regulatory efficiency, and limitations on the Board's resources, mean that not every application by an electricity LDC can, or should be considered at an oral hearing. However, the scale of this applicant's operations, and therefore the implications of the outcome of the application for a large number of ratepayers, suggest that an oral hearing is appropriate. It is also possible that, at the conclusion of the interrogatory process, it will become clear that a number of issues can be disposed of in a written process. Until that point, however, the application should be processed on the basis that all issues will be considered at an oral hearing.

The CCC intends to seek an order, at the conclusion of the proceeding, for its costs.



We would appreciate your having all notices with respect to the proceeding, and copies of all evidence, delivered to the writer. In addition, copies of all materials should be sent to the CCC's consultant, Julie Girvan. Ms. Girvan's contact information is: 2 Penrose Road, Toronto, ON M4S 1P1, telephone: (416) 322-7936, fax: (416) 322-9703, e-mail: jgirvan@ca.inter.net.

Yours very truly,

WeirFoulds LLP

Robert B. Warren

## RBW/dlh

cc: Hydro Ottawa Limited, Attn: Lynne Anderson

Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP, Attn: Jerry Farrell and Helen Newland

Dr. Peter Dyne Joan Huzar Julie Girvan