Ontario Energy **Board** 

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Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario

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## BY E-MAIL AND WEB POSTING

August 20, 2010

To: **Ontario EBT Standards Working Group for Retail Settlement GDAR EBT Standards Working Group** 

Re: Implementation of Consumer Protection (Retailer/Marketer) Provisions of the Energy Consumer Protection Act, 2010 (EB-2010-0245)

The Energy Consumer Protection Act, 2010 (the "ECPA"), which received Royal Assent on May 18, 2010 and may come into force as early as January 1, 2011, will establish a new framework for the regulation of the activities of licensed electricity retailers and gas marketers ("suppliers"). Many of the provisions of the ECPA contemplate that supporting regulations will be made. To that end, draft regulations under the ECPA and the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998 were posted for comment on July 2, 2010 by the government.

On August 4, 2010, the Board issued a letter advising of the consultation process it intended to initiate to align its existing regulatory instruments with the ECPA and develop additional regulatory requirements. On August 12, 2010, the Board issued for comment proposed revisions to its regulatory instruments. In both of these documents, the Board noted that the Electronic Business Transaction ("EBT") Standards for both sectors may also be affected.

The Board requests that the EBT Standards Working Groups identify any issues related to the current EBT processes arising from the implementation of the ECPA, the draft regulations and the proposed revisions to the Board's regulatory instruments that need resolution to ensure a successful transition to the new framework when the ECPA comes into force. The Board would ask that the Working Groups report on the progress of their discussions by September 10, 2010.

More information about the Board's work to implement the consumer protection provisions of the ECPA related to the activities of suppliers is available at http://www.oeb.gov.on.ca/OEB/Industry/Regulatory+Proceedings/Policy+Initiatives+and+Consultation s/Consumer+Protection+ECPA.

Please do not hesitate to contact Lou Mustillo at 416-544-5185 or <a href="mailto:lou.mustillo@oeb.gov.on.ca">lou.mustillo@oeb.gov.on.ca</a> should you have any questions.

Yours truly,

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli **Board Secretary**