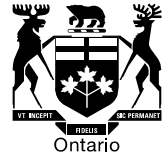


**Ontario Energy  
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**VIA E-MAIL AND WEB POSTING**

January 28, 2011

**To: All Rate-regulated Natural Gas Distributors  
Consumers Council of Canada  
London Property Management Association  
School Energy Coalition**

**Re: Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards  
Amendments to the Affiliate Relationships Code for Gas Utilities and  
to the Natural Gas Reporting & Record Keeping Requirements: Rule  
for Gas Utilities  
Board File No.: EB-2010-0248**

**Background**

On July 29, 2010, the Board issued a Notice of Proposal to Amend Rules (the "July Notice") in which the Board proposed amendments to the Affiliate Relationships Code for Gas Utilities (the "ARC") and the Natural Gas Reporting & Record Keeping Requirements: Rule for Gas Utilities ("RRR") to keep pace with the fact that the Province's largest natural gas utilities are now permitted to own and operate certain renewable and other generation facilities as well as energy storage facilities, and to support the Board's objective of promoting the use and generation of electricity from renewable energy sources. In the July Notice, the Board indicated that cost awards will be available to eligible persons under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (the "Act") in relation to this consultation, and that costs awarded would be recovered from rate-regulated natural gas utilities based on their respective distribution revenues.

In its September 10, 2010 Decision on Cost Eligibility, the Board determined that the following participants were eligible for an award of costs in this consultation process:

- Consumers Council of Canada;
- London Property Management Association; and
- School Energy Coalition,

(together, the “eligible participants”).

The activities for which cost awards are available in this consultation are the following:

- the provision of written comments on the proposed amendments to the ARC and the RRR set out in the July Notice, up to a **maximum of 16 hours**; and
- the provision of written comments on revised proposed amendments to the RRR set out in the further Notice issued by the Board on November 26, 2010 (the “November Notice”), up to a **maximum of 7 hours**.

In the November Notice, the Board advised interested parties of the adoption and issuance by the Board of amendments to the ARC. On January 27, 2011, the Board issued a further Notice advising interested parties of the adoption and issuance by the Board of amendments to the RRR. With the issuance of the January 27, 2011 Notice, this consultation process has been completed.

### **Notice of Hearing**

The Board is initiating this hearing on its own motion in order to determine the cost awards that will be made in accordance with section 30 of the Act in relation to this consultation. The file number for this hearing is **EB-2010-0248**.

The Board intends to proceed by way of written hearing unless a party can satisfy the Board that there is a good reason for not holding a written hearing. If a party wants to object to a written hearing, the objection must be received by the Board no later than **7 days** after the date of this Notice of Hearing.

Assuming that the Board does not receive any objections to a written hearing, the hearing will follow the process set out below.

1. Eligible participants shall submit their cost claims by **February 11, 2011**. The cost claims must be completed in accordance with section 10 of the Board's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*. A copy of the cost claim must be filed with the Board and one copy is to be served on each rate-regulated natural gas distributor.
2. Each rate-regulated natural gas distributor will have until **February 25, 2011** to object to any aspect of the costs claimed. A copy of the objection must be filed with the Board and one copy must be served on the eligible participant against whose claim the objection is being made.
3. An eligible participant whose cost claim was objected to will have until **March 11, 2011** to make a reply submission as to why its cost claim should be allowed. A copy of the reply submission must be filed with the Board and one copy is to be served on the objecting natural gas distributor.

The Board will then issue its decision on cost awards. The Board's costs may also be addressed in the cost awards decision.

Service of cost claims, objections and reply submissions on other parties may be effected by courier, registered mail, facsimile or e-mail.

Parties must file two paper copies and one electronic copy of their submissions with the Board Secretary by **4:45 pm** on the required dates. The Board requests that parties make every effort to provide electronic copies of their filings in searchable/unrestricted Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format, and to submit their filings through the Board's web portal at [www.errr.oeb.gov.on.ca](http://www.errr.oeb.gov.on.ca). A user ID is required to submit documents through the Board's web portal. If you do not have a user ID, please visit the "e-filings services" webpage on the Board's website at [www.oeb.gov.on.ca](http://www.oeb.gov.on.ca), and fill out a user ID password request. Additionally, parties are requested to follow the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the document entitled "RESS Document Preparation – A Quick Guide" also found on the e-filing services webpage. If the Board's web portal is not available, electronic copies of filings may be filed by e-

mail at [boardsec@oeb.gov.on.ca](mailto:boardsec@oeb.gov.on.ca). Those that do not have internet access should provide a CD or diskette containing their filing in PDF format.

All submissions must quote file number **EB-2010-0248** and include your name, address, telephone number and, where available, your e-mail address and fax number.

All submissions in this hearing (including cost claims, objections, and replies) will form part of the public record and copies of the submissions will be available for inspection at the Board's offices during normal business hours and may be published on the Board's website.

If the submission is from a private citizen (i.e., not a lawyer representing a client, not a consultant representing a client or organization, not an individual in an organization that represents the interests of consumers or other groups, and not an individual from a regulated entity), before making the submission available for viewing at the Board's offices or placing the submission on the Board's website, the Board will remove any personal (i.e., not business) contact information from the submission (i.e., the address, fax number, phone number, and e-mail address of the individual). However, the name of the individual and the content of the submission will be available for viewing at the Board's offices and will be placed on the Board's website.

**If you do not file a letter objecting to a written hearing or do not participate in the hearing by filing written submissions in accordance with this Notice of Hearing, the Board may proceed without your participation and you will not be entitled to further notice in this proceeding.**

Yours truly,

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary