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April 13, 2011

Ms. Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary  
Ontario Energy Board  
2300 Yonge Street  
Toronto, Ontario

Dear Ms. Walli:

**Re: Regional Planning for Electricity Infrastructure**  
**Board File No: EB-2011-0043**  
**Our File No.: 10043**

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I am writing on behalf of the Nishnawbe Aski Nation ("NAN") in respect of the proposed consultation process of the OEB on regional planning for the electricity infrastructure.

My client, NAN, has received a copy of your letter, dated April 1, 2011, and wishes to participate in the consultation meeting at the OEB's office on May 12, 2011 and any other processes relevant to EB-2011-0043, as a stakeholder.

NAN is already a party intervenor to the IPSP hearing which will be resuming in the future given the recently released Long Term Energy Plan.

As the Board is aware, NAN represents 49 First Nation communities covered by Treaties No. 5 and 9. NAN's head office is located in Thunder Bay, an area covering 210,000 square miles, which is approximately 2/3 of the Province of Ontario.

Most NAN communities are located north of the 50<sup>th</sup> parallel in Northwestern and Northeastern Ontario and many are dependent on diesel generation for electricity. Further, those NAN communities which are fortunate enough to be connected to the grid often rely on transmission lines which require upgrading or replacement.

The issue of regional energy planning in the electricity sector is therefore of paramount importance to NAN communities.

NAN would like to participate in EB-2011-0043 by attending the stakeholder meeting on Thursday, May 12, 2011.

Further, given restrictions on NAN's financial resources, NAN also requests cost eligibility for its participation in EB-2011-0043 in accordance with the OEB's Practice Direction on Cost Awards and any other directions from the Board.

We look forward to the Board confirming that NAN will be entitled to participate in the May 12, 2011 meeting and any other steps in the process provided for in EB-2011-0043.

The proposed participants on behalf of NAN for the OEB's regional planning process will be one or two members of NAN's executive, Mel Stewart (NAN consultant), and Doug Cunningham (Legal counsel for NAN).

Thank you for processing this request.

Yours very truly,  
**Barrister & Solicitor**

*Douglas M. Cunningham* [Electronic signature]

**Douglas M. Cunningham**  
DMC/am

c: Grand Chief Stan Beardy  
c: Mel Stewart (NAN Consultant)