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**BY E-MAIL AND WEB POSTING**

February 22, 2012

**To:** All Participants in Consultations EB-2010-0377, EB-2010-0378, EB-2010-0379, EB-2011-0043 and EB-2011-0004  
All Licensed Electricity Transmitters and Distributors  
All Other Interested Stakeholders

**Re: Renewed Regulatory Framework for Electricity  
Notice of Stakeholder Conference  
Board File Nos.: EB-2010-0377, EB-2010-0378, EB-2010-0379, EB-2011-0043  
and EB-2011-0004**

The Ontario Energy Board (the “Board”) currently has underway a consultation process to develop a renewed regulatory framework for electricity distributors and transmitters (“RRFE”).

Earlier in this consultation, on November 8, 2011, the Board issued a letter setting out the objectives for the renewed regulatory framework, together with five staff discussion papers. On February 6, 2012, the Board issued a letter providing an update on the consultation process for this initiative. That letter indicated that a series of meetings with leaders of interested stakeholders would be hosted by the Chair of the Board, following which the Board would be holding a Stakeholder Conference at which all stakeholders would have an opportunity to discuss issues relating to the development of the renewed regulatory framework.

The purpose of this letter is to provide interested stakeholders with further information about that Stakeholder Conference, which is scheduled for **March 28 – 30, 2012**.

### **Stakeholder Conference**

The purpose of the Stakeholder Conference is to provide a forum for discussion of the key issues related to the development and implementation of the renewed framework. The objectives of the Stakeholder Conference are:

- to provide participants with an overview of the issues raised by stakeholders in the Chair’s meetings, noted above;

- to allow participants and their experts to express their views on the challenges facing consumers and the industry, on expectations for the renewed regulatory framework, and on the appropriate elements of that framework; and,
- to help the Board and participants gain, through the presentations and an interactive exchange, an understanding of different perspectives and of significant issues and areas of concern.

In advance of the Stakeholder Conference, the Board will provide materials to guide participants in preparing their presentations.

### **Presentations at the Stakeholder Conference**

The Board will provide each participant and/or their expert with an opportunity to make a presentation. The Board encourages participants and experts with common viewpoints to consult with one another and make a joint presentation representing their shared views.

Participants are encouraged to make their oral presentations as concise as possible. The time devoted to individual presentations and/or subject area discussions at the Stakeholder Conference will be managed as required to permit the most efficient and effective use of stakeholder time.

### **Location and Registration**

**Dates:** March 28 – 30, 2012  
**Time:** Commencing each day at 9:30 a.m.  
**Location:** Ontario Energy Board West Hearing Room,  
25th floor, 2300 Yonge Street, Toronto

The Stakeholder Conference will be broadcast over the web to allow remote participation.

A detailed schedule will be issued to registered participants prior to the Stakeholder Conference.

Interested participants wishing to attend the Stakeholder Conference are asked to register in advance by e-mail to [RRF@ontarioenergyboard.ca](mailto:RRF@ontarioenergyboard.ca) by 4:30 p.m. on **March 9, 2012**. Please include “Stakeholder Conference Attendance” in the subject line, and include the following information:

- Participant organization name;
- Names of attendees to be registered;
- Whether the participant and/or their expert intends to make a presentation, and if so, the topic(s) of the presentation;
- Whether the participant intends to participate in person or by web; and,
- A contact name, telephone number and e-mail address.

Participants and/or their experts who intend to make a presentation are asked to make an electronic copy of the presentation available to the Board in advance. Presentation materials must be sent to the Board Secretary by **March 21, 2012**, in accordance with the filing instructions set out below.

Please note that in-person seating will be limited. Participants are asked to limit “in-person” participation to two persons. As noted above, however, capacity for participation will also be available on a remote basis by web. Detailed instructions on how to participate remotely will be sent to all registered participants on or before the conference date.

### **Next Steps**

Following the Stakeholder Conference, and with the benefit of hearing the views of other participants in the consultation, participants will have an opportunity to provide written comments on the staff discussion papers and the issues explored at the Stakeholder Conference.

### **Cost Awards**

Cost awards will be available to eligible participants in relation to the consultation activities described in this letter. **Important updated information regarding cost awards is set out in Attachment A.**

### **Filing Instructions**

Two (2) paper copies of each filing must be provided, and should be sent to:

Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary  
Ontario Energy Board  
P.O. Box 2319  
2300 Yonge Street, Suite 2700  
Toronto, Ontario M4P 1E4

The Board requests that interested stakeholders 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.ontarioenergyboard.ca](http://www.errr.ontarioenergyboard.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.ontarioenergyboard.ca](http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca), and fill out a user ID password request. Additionally, interested stakeholders 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@ontarioenergyboard.ca](mailto:BoardSec@ontarioenergyboard.ca).

Those that do not have internet access should provide a CD or diskette containing their filing in PDF format.

Filings to the Board must be received by the Board Secretary by 4:45 p.m. on the required date. They must quote all of the applicable file number(s) (**EB-2010-0377, EB-2010-0378, EB-2010-0379, EB-2011-0043 and EB-2011-0004**) and include your name, address, telephone number and, where available, your e-mail address and fax number. All filings received by the Board in relation to the initiatives described in this letter will be available for viewing at the Board's offices and will be placed on the Board's website.

If you have any questions regarding this consultation process, please contact Brian Hewson, Senior Manager, Networks & Smart Grid. Mr. Hewson can be reached by phone at 416-440-7628 or by email at [brian.hewson@ontarioenergyboard.ca](mailto:brian.hewson@ontarioenergyboard.ca).

The Board's toll free number is 1-888-632-6273, and the Market Operations Hotline is 416-440-7604.

Yours truly,

*Original Signed By*

Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary

Attachment A – Cost Awards  
Attachment B – Summary of Cost Eligibility Status

## Attachment A

To Letter Dated February 22, 2012

### Cost Awards and Eligibility

The Board has previously determined that cost awards will be available under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* in respect of this consultation. The Board has also previously made a number of determinations regarding the eligibility of participants for cost awards, as summarized in Attachment B.

### Activities Eligible for Cost Awards

For consultation activities that post-date this letter and for which cost award limits were not previously established, cost awards will be available to each eligible participant as follows:

Activity Eligible for Cost Awards	Maximum Number of Hours
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation for, attendance at, and reporting on the Stakeholder Conference</li> </ul>	10 hours per day
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Written comments on staff discussion papers and Stakeholder Conference issues</li> </ul>	25 hours <u>per EB number</u>
<u>For each expert retained by an eligible participant:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation for, attendance at, and reporting on the Stakeholder Conference</li> </ul>	10 hours per day
<u>For each expert retained by a collaborative (i.e. group of eligible participants):</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation for, attendance at, and reporting on the Stakeholder Conference</li> </ul>	10 hours per day

Participants should refer to Attachment B of the Board's November 8, 2011 letter for:

- the hourly cost award limits for the preparation of a separate expert report (for experts retained by a participant and for experts retained by a collaborative); and
- the Board's expectations regarding cost awards for jointly sponsored expert reports and with respect to the need to track activities by EB number.

**Attachment B**

To Letter Dated February 22, 2012

**Summary of Cost Eligibility Status of Participants in Each Initiative**

In Table 1 below:

- i. the symbol “✓” denotes that the participant has been determined by the Board to be **eligible** in respect of a particular initiative;
- ii. the symbol “✓<sub>Ex</sub>” denotes that the participant has been determined by the Board to be **eligible to claim the costs of an expert** in respect of a particular initiative;
- iii. the symbol “✕” denotes that the participant has been determined by the Board to be **ineligible** in respect of a particular initiative;
- iv. the symbol “✕<sub>Ex</sub>” denotes that the participant has been determined by the Board to be **ineligible to claim the costs of an expert** in respect of a particular initiative;
- v. a blank space indicates that no request for cost eligibility has been received from the participant in respect of a particular initiative.

Table 1

Participant		EB-2010-0377	EB-2010-0378	EB-2010-0379	EB-2011-0043	EB-2011-0004
1	Agrienergy Producers' Association of Ontario (APAO)		✓	✓	✓	
2	Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario (AMPCO)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3	Association of Power Producers of Ontario (APPrO)	✓		✓	✓	
4	Building Owners and Managers Association of the Greater Toronto Area (BOMA)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5	Canadian Energy Efficiency Alliance (CEEAA)	✗	✗	✗		
6	Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB)	✓/✓ <sub>Ex</sub>	✓	✓	✓/✓ <sub>Ex</sub>	✓/✓ <sub>Ex</sub>
7	Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME)	✓/✓ <sub>Ex</sub>	✓/✓ <sub>Ex</sub>	✓	✓	✓
8	City of Thunder Bay (Thunder Bay)				✗	
9	Common Voice Northwest (CVNW)	✗		✗	✗	✗
10	Consumers Council of Canada (CCC)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11	Council of Canadians (CoC)	✓	✓	✓		
12	Electrical Contractors Association of Ontario (ECAO)	✓	✗	✓		
13	Electricity Distributors Association (EDA)	✗ <sub>Ex</sub>	✗ <sub>Ex</sub>	✗ <sub>Ex</sub>	✗ <sub>Ex</sub>	✗ <sub>Ex</sub>
14	Energy Probe Research Foundation (EPRF)	✓	✓	✓	✓	
15	Federation of Rental-housing Providers of Ontario (FRPO)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
16	Kinectrics					✗
17	London Property Management Association (LPMA)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
18	Low-Income Energy Network (LIEN)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
19	National Chief's Office (NCO)	✓	✓	✓	✓	
20	Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN)				✓	
21	Northwatch	✓/✓ <sub>Ex</sub>	✓/✓ <sub>Ex</sub>	✓/✓ <sub>Ex</sub>	✓/✓ <sub>Ex</sub>	✓/✓ <sub>Ex</sub>
22	Northwestern Ontario Associated Chambers of Commerce (NOACC)				✓	✓
23	Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA)				✗	
24	Ontario Sustainable Energy Association (OSEA)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
25	Ontario Waterpower Association (OWA)		✓	✓	✓	
26	Pollution Probe	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
27	Retail Council of Canada (RCC)	✓/✓ <sub>Ex</sub>	✓/✓ <sub>Ex</sub>	✓/✓ <sub>Ex</sub>	✓/✓ <sub>Ex</sub>	✓/✓ <sub>Ex</sub>
28	REGEN Energy					✗
29	School Energy Coalition (SEC)	✓	✓	✓	✓	
30	Town of Atikokan (Atikokan)				✗	
31	Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓