

March 21, 2012

Ms. Kirsten Walli, Board Secretary Ontario Energy Board 2300 Yonge Street 27<sup>th</sup> Floor Toronto, Ontario M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli,

# Re: EB-2012-0062 Comprehensive Review of the Electricity Reporting and Record Keeping Requirements - Nomination of Small Group Discussion Participant

Horizon Utilities Corporation ("Horizon Utilities") appreciates the opportunity to nominate a participant for the small group discussions related to the comprehensive review of the Electricity Reporting and Record Keeping Requirements ("RRR").

By way of this letter, Horizon Utilities wishes to identify its support of the commencement of this comprehensive review initiated by the Ontario Energy Board ("the Board"). Further, Horizon Utilities wishes to nominate an individual to the small group discussions related to this review. Horizon Utilities is one of the largest local distribution companies ("LDCs") in Ontario, with 237,000 customers and \$470M in assets. Horizon Utilities serves the cities of Hamilton and St. Catharines.

Horizon Utilities is in a unique position of having a number of defining characteristics which it believes will be of great assistance to the Board and Board staff in terms of contribution and active participation in the small group discussions, as follows:

- Horizon Utilities has a distribution system that combines rural and urban areas.
   There are significant differences in characteristics between urban and rural distribution systems. Horizon Utilities' experience will prove to be valuable when determining the effectiveness of various metrics in both rural and urban settings.
- Horizon Utilities also has a diverse customer base of residential, commercial and heavy industrial customers. Consequently, these customer types have varying monitoring and reporting methodology requirements and Horizon Utilities captures these diverse needs of its customer base. Horizon Utilities will bring a similar approach for customer class specific reporting to the small group discussion that will lead to improved reporting processes, elimination of unnecessary measures, changes in the frequency of reporting and improved consistency in information filed by all licensed distributors.

Horizon Utilities, by way of this letter, is nominating Ms. Christine Philbert, Manager of Regulatory Affairs to participate in this small discussion group. Ms. Philbert holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree and is a Certified General Accountant. In addition, Ms. Philbert has over eight years' experience in financial and benchmark reporting, including



the Ontario Municipal Benchmarking Initiative ("OMBI"). Through the OMBI initiative, Ms. Philbert provided guidance and clarity to ensure that reporting standards and protocols in reporting were adhered to by municipalities to ensure comparability for benchmarking purposes. In addition, Ms. Philbert brings a diversified outlook with respect to reporting parameters and has a strong background in reporting various programs managed by multiple levels of government and government agencies. A copy of Ms. Philbert's Curriculum Vitae is enclosed with this letter.

Horizon Utilities is pleased to participate in this proceeding and looks forward to playing an active and dedicated role with respect to the small group discussion should her nomination be accepted. Correspondence related to this matter may be sent to me electronically at my email address as follows:

#### indy.butany@horizonutilities.com

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this important proceeding.

Yours truly,

Original signed by Indy J. Butany-DeSouza

Indy J. Butany-DeSouza Vice-President, Regulatory Affairs Horizon Utilities Corporation

Tel: (905) 317-4765

### **Christine Philbert**

55 John Street North, Hamilton, ON L8R 3M8 Phone: 905-521-4924(W), 905-730-0491(C) e-mail:christine.philbert@horizonutilities.com

#### **EDUCATION**

Certified General Accountants of Ontario, Toronto ON Certified General Accountant, 2011

University of Guelph, College of Management and Economics, Guelph ON Bachelor of Commerce, Management Economics in Industry and Finance, 2003

#### **EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE**

HORIZON UTILITIES CORPORATION, Hamilton ON Manager, Regulatory Affairs November 2011 – Present

- Draft and defend electricity distribution rate applications to the Ontario Energy Board ("OEB") including the Smart Meter Prudence Application (EB-2011-0417).
- Develop and refine business applications, processes, policies and procedures including defining Horizon Utilities internal reporting processes concerning the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program ("LEAP").
- Develop financial models and prepare financial analysis in support of regulatory strategy and filings.
- Review, process and provide interpretation and implications of staff papers and decisions from the OEB including: Conservation and Demand Management Guidelines (EB-2012-0003), RRR Review and Amendments (EB-2012-0062) and Defining and Measuring the Performance of Electricity Transmitters and Distributors (EB-2010-0379).

#### REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF HALTON, Oakville ON

Senior Advisor, Tax Programs

2010 - November 2011

- Supervise seven financial analysts and three financial assistants in the property taxsupported program areas of Public Health, Emergency Medical Services and Social and Community Services.
- Coordinate the preparation of financial information to support operating and capital budget requests, Ministry reporting requirements and financial modeling to ensure legislative requirements are met.
- Advise on financial strategies to address funding for cost-shared programs and effective monitoring of provincial/federal government financing, including a 10 year operating forecast.

Senior Advisor, Tax

2008 - 2010

 Supervise three financial analysts in the tax-supported program areas of Legislative & Planning Services and Corporate Administration including Compensation Budget Development and Corporate Budget Reporting.

- Coordinate the preparation of financial information to ensure work is prepared in an accurate and consistent manner in accordance with corporate financial policies and procedures, and is in a well-composed form for management and Regional Council.
- Lead corporate projects and provide budget policy development advice including Allocated Charges & Recoveries Review and Corporate Support Model Review.

## Senior Financial Analyst, Social Services 2007 – 2008

- Co-ordinate the preparation of the annual Social Services Budget including the supporting text and financial data to justify funding requests from provincial/federal governments.
- Monitor Social Service actual expenditures and articulate explanations for variances, in consultation with departmental staff to report variances to Council three times annually.

#### COUNTY OF LANARK, Perth ON

Financial Analyst

2005 - 2007

- Co-ordinate the municipal budgeting process through compiling, editing and analyzing departmental budgets.
- Provide analytical data to support the delivery of various provincial government reporting requirements and budget deliberations.
- Analyze variances in expenditures and revenues to budgeted figures and work with management to ensure consistent and accurate financial reporting to meet the needs of the corporation and the public.

EMMANUEL INTERNATIONAL/CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, Central Africa
Capacity Builder, Finance
2003 – 2004

- Develop financial accountability systems, procedures and policies for the in-country partner.
- Train national staff in accounting skills, reporting for current programs and proposal writing for future initiatives.
- Assist in proposal and report writing for the in-country partner's community-based development needs and ongoing programs.