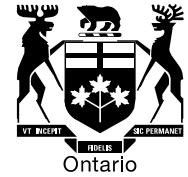


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BY EMAIL & WEB POSTING

May 11, 2012

**To: All Electricity Distributors
All Participants in the Conservation and Demand Management Code and
Target Proceedings EB-2010-0215 and EB-2010-0216**

**Re: Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards
Conservation and Demand Management (CDM) Guidelines for Electricity
Distributors (EB-2012-0003)**

Background

On January 5, 2012, the Board began a consultation process to develop guidelines for electricity conservation and demand management (“CDM”) activities to provide more specific guidance on certain provisions in the CDM Code and what evidence should be filed by distributors in support of an application for Board-Approved CDM programs.

The Board received 16 written submissions in total, from a variety of stakeholders. After reviewing the written submissions, the Board concluded that no material changes were required and the CDM Guidelines were issued on April 26, 2012.

The Board informed parties that those that were found eligible for an award of costs in the CDM Code proceeding (EB-2010-0215) and/or the CDM Targets proceeding (EB-2010-0216) were deemed eligible for costs awards in this consultation.

The Board noted that cost awards would be available in relation to the provision of written comments on the CDM Guidelines for up to a total of eight (8) hours. Further, the Board noted that when determining the amount of the cost awards, the Board will apply the principles set out in section 5 of its *Practice Direction on Cost Awards* and that the maximum hourly rates set out in the Board's Cost Awards Tariff will also be applied.

Notice of Hearing

The Board is initiating this hearing on its own motion in order to determine the cost awards that may be made in accordance with section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* in relation to participation in the consultation process developing the CDM Guidelines. The file number for this hearing is **EB-2012-0003**.

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 **seven (7) days** after the date of this Notice.

Cost awards will be recovered from all licensed electricity distributors based on their respective distribution revenues.

When determining the amount of the cost awards, the Board will apply the principles set out in section 5 of its *Practice Direction on Cost Awards* and the maximum hourly rates set out in the Board's Cost Awards Tariff will be applied.

The Board will use the process set out in section 12 of its *Practice Direction on Cost Awards* to implement the payment of the cost awards. Therefore, the Board will act as a clearing house for all payments of cost awards in this process. For more information on this process, please see the *Board's Practice Direction on Cost Awards* and the October 27, 2005 letter regarding the rationale for the Board acting as a clearing house for the cost award payments. These documents can be found on the Board's website at www.ontarioenergyboard.ca on the "Rules, Guidelines and Forms" webpage.

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

1. The eligible parties shall submit their cost claims by **May 21, 2012**. Two copies of the cost claim must be filed with the Board and one copy is to be served on each licensed Electricity Distributor. The cost claims must be completed in accordance with section 10 of the Board's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.
2. Licensed Electricity Distributors will have until **May 28, 2012**, 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 party against whose claim the objection is being made.

3. The eligible party whose cost claim was objected to will have until **June 4, 2012**, 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 distributor(s).
4. The Board's costs will 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.

All submissions in this hearing (i.e., cost claims, objections, or replies) will form part of the public record. Copies of the submissions will be available for inspection at the Board's office and the submissions may be published on the Board's website.

All filings to the Board must quote the file number, EB-2012-0003, be made through the Board's web portal at www.errr.ontarioenergyboard.ca, and consist of two paper copies and one electronic copy in searchable / unrestricted PDF format. Filings must clearly state the sender's name, postal address and telephone number, fax number and e-mail address. Please use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the RESS Document Guidelines found at www.ontarioenergyboard.ca. If the web portal is not available you may e-mail your document to boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca. Those who do not have internet access are required to submit all filings on a CD in PDF format, along with two paper copies. Those who do not have computer access are required to file 7 paper copies.

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Board Secretary at the address below, and be received no later than 4:45 p.m. on the required date.

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

Address

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Yours truly,

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary