



By E-mail

May 7, 2008

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Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street
27th floor
Toronto ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms Walli,

**Staff Discussion Paper on Electricity Distributors:
Customer Service, Rate Classification and Non-payment Risk**
Board File No.: EB-2007-0722
Our File No.: 339583-000003

We are writing on behalf of Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters ("CME") to seek participant status and cost award eligibility in the ensuing stages of this consultative process.

We recognize that the deadline date of April 18, 2008, for making written comments on the Staff Discussion Paper has passed. Our client's desire is to participate in any further stages of this process which the Board schedules to advocate Customer Service, Rate Classification and Non-payment Risk policies which are reasonably compatible with the needs of Ontario manufacturers.

Electricity is a primary source of energy for the manufacturing sector. CME's members represent 75% of all manufactured output in the Province of Ontario and 90% of all exports. Ontario manufacturers need electricity prices which are competitive with the electricity prices being paid by manufacturers located elsewhere.

CME's ability to participate in this proceeding is dependent upon a determination that it is eligible for a Cost Award. The Board has determined in prior proceedings that CME is eligible for a Cost Award.

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If the participant status and Cost Award eligibility relief requested is granted, then CME requests that further communications be sent to the following:

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Please contact the undersigned if the Board requires any further information in connection with CME's request for participant status and Cost Award eligibility in this proceeding.

Yours very truly,



Peter C.P. Thompson, Q.C.

PCT\slc

c. Paul Clipsham (CME)
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