PETER C.P. THOMPSON, Q.C. T 613.787.3528 pthompson@blg.com

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP World Exchange Plaza 100 Queen St, Suite 1100 Ottawa, ON, Canada K1P 1J9 T 613.237.5160 F 613.230.8842 blg.com



By electronic filing

August 26, 2013

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

Dear Ms. Walli,

Review of Framework Governing the Participation of Intervenors in Board Proceedings – Consultation and Stakeholder Conference

Board File No.:

EB-2013-0301

Our File No.:

339583-000003

We are writing to register the intent of our client, Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters ("CME"), to participate in this consultation and to seek cost award eligibility.

Cost Award Eligibility

The grounds on which CME believes that it is eligible for an award of costs are as follows:

- 1. CME is Canada's leading business network. Its members represent 75% of manufactured output in the Province of Ontario, and 90% of all exports.
- 2. Manufacturing is important to the Province of Ontario. It is the single largest sector of the economy (17.5% of Gross Domestic Product ("GDP") or \$300B) employing, directly, over 1M people in the Province.
- 3. CME is a not-for-profit organization funded by membership fees and revenues from the services it renders to Federal and Provincial Governments and Agencies to foster the development of national and international markets for its members to break down trade barriers.
- 4. About 85% of CME's 1,400 Ontario-based member companies are Small to Medium sized business Enterprises ("SMEs") with 500 employees or less. The views of these businesses should be considered in this proceeding.
- 5. Electricity is the primary source of energy for the manufacturing sector. As a result, the members of CME are vitally concerned with all matters pertaining to the supply and price of electricity.
- 6. Ontario-based CME members seek an electricity system for Ontario which is one of the most cost-effective and economically sustainable systems in North America.



- 7. The Board's successive determinations over the years that CME is cost-award eligible have enabled CME to actively participate in many Board proceedings. Accordingly, CME and its members will be directly affected by possible changes to the Board's approach to intervenor status, cost eligibility and cost awards.
- 8. CME will be unable to continue to participate in proceedings before the Board if it no longer receives the benefit of cost awards.

CME Representation and Contacts

If the relief requested in this letter is granted, then those responsible for managing CME's participation in this proceeding and to whom further communications with respect to this matter should be sent are the following:

Paul Clipsham	Borden Ladner Gervais LLP	Peter C.P. Thompson, Q.C.	
Director of Policy – Ontario Division	Barristers & Solicitors	Tel	(613) 787-3528
Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters	100 Queen Street	Email	pthompson@blg.com
6725 Airport Road	Suite 1100		
Suite 200	Ottawa, ON K1P 1J9	Vincent J. DeRose	
Mississauga, ON L4V 1V2		Tel	(613) 787-3589
	Main Fax (613) 230-8842	Email	vderose@blg.com
Tel (289) 566-9538			
Fax (905) 672-1764		Kim Dullet	
Email paul.clipsham@cme-mec.ca		Tel	(613) 369-4792
		Email	kdullet@blg.com

Please contact the undersigned if the Board requires any further information in connection with these requests.

Yours very truly,

Peter C.P. Thompson, Q.C.

PCT\slc

c. Paul Clipsham

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