

Ontario Energy Board
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Attention: Board Secretary
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October 21, 2013

Dear Ms. Walli,

RE: EB-2013-0192/Cost Award to Ontario Sustainable Energy Association

I have just received the OEB's notification of the Board's consideration of the amendments to the Ontario Power Authority's (OPA) licence and noted within the Board's "Decision and Order" under date of October 21, 2013 that the Ontario Sustainable Energy Association (OSEA) was granted "cost awards" under their intervenor status.

As a ratepayer I find the foregoing most disconcerting in view of the fact that I have in the past alerted the OEB as to the source of funding for OSEA under EB-2010-0377, EB-2010-0378 and EB-2010-0379. Reference to the foregoing files will outline my objections at that time. Please note that not much has changed since my filing and your ruling (at that time) to deny cost awards.

I would reference the letter submitted by Willms & Shier under date of June 14, 2013 wherein they provide a link to the "reputed" 200 members of OSEA but if one clicks on the link it simply takes you to a video of their Executive Director, Kris Stephens.

Going to the OSEA website and looking at the claimed membership; they list only (my count) 121 members (mainly corporate with a smattering of not for profits and 4 co-ops and as many large unions. My search revealed no evidence to the claim advanced in the aforementioned letter that states: "Further, OSEA's membership includes thousands of individual ratepayers."

The vast majority of OSEA's members are corporations (Enercon, Pattern, Northland Power, Bullfrog Power, IPC Energy, Repower Systems Inc., RES Canada, etc.) or associations such as CanWEA, CanSIA, Biogas Association, APPRO whose members are generally large corporate entities who benefit from the FIT and MicroFIT programmes. OSEA also has several government institutions as members including the City of Toronto, Oakville Hydro, the Town of Kapuskasing, etc.

Further if one ventures to the "Funding Sources" page: http://www.ontario-sea.org/Page.asp?PageID=122&ContentID=916&SiteNodeID=205&BL_ExpandID=50 one notes that of the 6 names listed, five (5) are government owned or government funded institutions and include "The Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure", the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs," the "Community Power Fund" and the "Trillium Foundation." The only non Provincial owned institution named is the Toronto Atmospheric Fund, owned by the City of Toronto taxpayers.

I would also note that OSEA were able to finance TV ads in the run up to the 2011 Provincial election which the media at that time estimated would have cost them as much as two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) so they presumably are able to afford the intervenor costs associated with

this Board matter.

In summary I am shocked at the lack of research by the Ontario Energy Board that goes into determining if an association, or other entity requesting “cost awards” is deemed worthy. The funds to cover those awards ultimately come from **the pockets of the ratepayers of the Province** and those ratepayers are counting on the ability of the OEB to do their absolute best at ensuring that they are protected.

My research is not funded by anyone, nor do I receive compensation for that research. If I can determine the invalidity of those who are claiming “cost award” benefits I would hope the well paid folks at the OEB would be just as capable.

I look forward to your explanation on why the awards to OSEA were granted in this instance.

Respectively yours,

A. Parker Gallant

PS: This letter is sent by e-mail but my contact points and phone number are presumably stored in your system should you wish to speak directly with me.

PPS: If you would like me to send a hard copy of this letter please advise me and I will do so.