**IN THE MATTER OF** the *Ontario Energy Board Act 1998*, Schedule B to the *Energy Competition Act*, 1998, S.O. 1998, c.15;

**AND IN THE MATTER OF** an Application by Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. for an Order or Orders approving the final balances and for clearance of certain Demand Side Management Variance Accounts into rates, within the next available QRAM following the Board's approval.

### NOTICE OF INTERVENTION

#### **OF THE**

### SCHOOL ENERGY COALITION

1. The School Energy Coalition applies for intervenor status in this proceeding.

# **General Interest of the Intervenor**

- 2. The School Energy Coalition is a coalition established to represent the interests of all Ontario publicly-funded schools in matters relating to energy regulation, policy, and management. It is made up all seven of the major school-related organizations, representing all of the school boards, and all levels of school management, and through them representing the approximately 5000 schools and about 2 million students in Ontario. The primary goal of these organizations is to promote and enhance public education for the benefit of all students and citizens of Ontario.
- 3. The intervenor's members have a significant interest in the activities of regulated utilities and their affiliates in the province, due to the severe financial implications those activities have on school boards, their students and the people of the province of Ontario. Utility costs are one of the most significant cost pressures facing school boards. The annual cost of energy services to the intervenor's members is currently more than \$500 million.

## **Issues to be Addressed**

- 4. SEC's intended participation will focus on the following issues:
  - (a) The determination, verification and audit of results from the Applicant's DSM programs;

- (b) The impact of the results arising out of the verification and audit process on the balances in the DSM Incentive Deferral Account, the Lost Revenue Adjustment Mechanism Variance Account, and the DSM Variance Account; and
- (c) Generally to represent the interests of school boards and their students in this process.

# **The Intervenor's Intended Participation**

5. The School Energy Coalition intends to participate in any pre-hearing procedures, including interrogatories or technical conferences, and settlement conferences. SEC also intends to participate in any oral hearing of this matter, and in written or oral submissions, as well as any other parts of the process that the Board should order.

### **Nature of Hearing Requested**

6. Until interrogatories have been answered, we believe it is premature to assess whether a written or an oral hearing is more appropriate in this proceeding. While clearance applications of this kind can often be dealt with by way of written hearing, it is possible in this case that cross-examination of auditors and verification consultants may be appropriate and of assistance to the Board. It is not possible to assess that need, if any, until all relevant reports are filed in response to interrogatories.

# **Counsel/Representative**

- 7. The School Energy Coalition requests that a copy of all documents filed with the Board by each party to this proceeding be served on the intervenor, and on the intervenor's counsel, as follows:
  - (a) School Energy Coalition: (electronic copies only)

# ONTARIO EDUCATION SERVICES CORPORATION

c/o Ontario Public School Boards Association 439 University Avenue, 18th Floor

Toronto, ON M5G 1Y8

Attn: Wayne McNally, SEC Coordinator

Phone: 416 340-2540 Fax: 416 340-7571

Email: wmcnally@opsba.org

(b) School Energy Coalition's counsel: (both electronic and paper copies)

### JAY SHEPHERD PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

2300 Yonge Street, Suite 806 P.O. Box 2305 Toronto, Ontario, M4P 1E4

Attn: Jay Shepherd Phone: 416-483-3300 Cell: 416-804-2767 Fax: 416-483-3305

Email: jay.shepherd@canadianenergylawyers.com

#### **Costs**

- 8. The School Energy Coalition intends to apply for recovery of its costs reasonably incurred in the course of its intervention in this matter. The School Energy Coalition has participated in many past natural gas and electricity proceedings in Ontario, including consultations, rate cases, and other processes and hearings, and has been found eligible to be paid its reasonably incurred costs in all of those proceedings.
- 9. The School Energy Coalition is eligible for a cost award because it "primarily represents the interests of consumers (e.g. ratepayers) in relation to regulated services". School boards are one of the largest groups of non-industrial energy consumers in the province, and their energy costs have a direct impact on the education of millions of Ontario children. The formation of the School Energy Coalition ensured that all representatives of the interests of schools participated jointly in OEB proceedings.
- 10. The School Energy Coalition is not ineligible by reason of any of the criteria contained in section 3.05 of the Practice Direction on Cost Awards.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the School Energy Coalition this 11<sup>th</sup> day of November 2013.

Jay Shepherd Counsel for School Energy Coalition