Ontario Energy Board P.O. Box 2319 27th Floor 2300 Yonge Street Toronto ON M4P 1E4 Telephone: 416-481-1967 Facsimile: 416-440-7656 Toll free: 1-888-632-6273

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BY EMAIL

December 19, 2013

Ontario Energy Board P.O. Box 2319 27th Floor 2300 Yonge Street Toronto ON M4P 1E4 kirsten.walli@ontarioenergyboard.ca

Attention: Ms. Kirsten Walli, Board Secretary

Dear Ms. Walli:

Re: St. Thomas Energy Inc. ("St. Thomas Energy") 2014 IRM4 Distribution Rate Application Board Staff Submission Board File Number: EB-2013-0171

In accordance with Procedural Order No. 1, written submissions by Board staff must be filed with the Board, and delivered to St. Thomas Energy by December 20, 2013. Board staff has reviewed St. Thomas Energy's 2014 IRM application and its responses to interrogatories and has no concerns with the application and the changes agreed to by the applicant.

Board staff notes that the Group 1 principal balances to be disposed as of December 31, 2012 reconcile with the amounts reported by St. Thomas Energy as part of the *Reporting and Record-keeping Requirements* ("RRR") and that St. Thomas Energy's proposed one-year disposition period is consistent with the guidelines outlined in the *Report of the Board on Electricity Distributors' Deferral and Variance Account Review Initiative*. Therefore, Board staff has no issues with this request.

St. Thomas Energy's Reply Submission, if it intends to file one, is due by January 16, 2014.

Yours truly,

Original Signed By Marc Abramovitz