

BOMA's Role as an Intervenor at the Ontario Energy Board

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BOMA

BOMA plays a strong role in engaging and representing its members, particularly on energy related matters. Its members represent a significant representative sample of both natural gas and electricity ratepayers in Ontario. BOMA serves the entire Ontario commercial and institutional sector outside of Ottawa, where similar services are provided by BOMA Ottawa. We are one of the largest and most progressive real estate organizations in North America.

OUR VISION

Building Excellence Together.

OUR MISSION

To develop, promote and advance best management practices in the real estate industry through advocacy, education and networking.

Our PILLARS

The BOMA Network: Where the most influential Building Owners, Property Managers, Suppliers and Industry Influencers connect, communicate, collaborate, and share information.

The BOMA Building: Fostering and recognizing excellence in building management and operations through programs, resources, certifications and awards.

The BOMA Professional: Competencies and training required of individuals to meet and maintain the demands of a complex and constantly changing commercial real estate industry.

The BOMA Voice: Protecting and advancing the interests of its members on important policy issues at all levels of government and the media.

OUR VALUES

Transparency: We are accountable and regularly communicate with our members and stakeholders.

Leadership: We create an environment that supports advancement through innovation and creative thinking.

Honesty, Trust and Respect: We act with integrity in our interactions with our members and are supportive of each other and the value each person brings to the association.

Professional Development: We foster professional development by supporting and encouraging each other and by participating in educational opportunities and networking.

BOMA Seeks Members' Input on Numerous Topics

Government has long preferred that industry interest groups address issues through a single representative voice. BOMA is proactive in working closely with Federal, Provincial and Municipal representatives to insure that the legislative alternatives are fully explored. BOMA solicits opinions from its members, refines them into succinct and powerful position papers and presents them to government and other agencies including the OEB, the IESO and others.

BOMA is a leader in energy issues related to commercial real estate. We have an energy committee that is comprised of industry experts and sets the framework for our participation so that our voice can be heard. Our engagement in Ontario's energy sector includes breakfast seminars and webinars on energy related topics such as the Global Adjustment, Energy Performance Contracting, and Utility Programs.

What BOMA has learned is that no one organization, institution, business or corporation can "own its customers, its consumers and its members. BOMA brings its member needs and views to educate and inform its participation in Board Proceedings in an active, informative and engaged way.

BOMA is very confident that the above information demonstrates both consultation and engagement with its constituency and that that constituency has a “substantial interest” with respect to Ontario Energy Board gas and electricity rate hearings, related proceedings, and most of the consultative processes.

Governance

BOMA’s Energy Committee guides its legal counsel and other representatives in the thorough, broad, and mutual understanding of BOMA’s policies, business operations and objectives and through regular information exchanges with the President of the Association and BOMA’s staff member on the Energy Committee. Our representatives regularly meet with our energy committee and have faithfully relayed those needs and views.

Recent Program Highlights

Our latest annual report contained the following highlights. BOMA:

- Advocated at all levels of Government providing a voice for commercial property owners in Ontario.
- Advanced the interesting of our members on important policies issues such as energy pricing and supply, property taxes, transit, labour requirements and building regulations.
- Represented our members’ views at the Ontario Energy Board advocating on topics such as ratemaking, smart grid, conservation and demand management programs to reduce energy use, Ontario Power Authority and IESO activities, demand side management and Energy Consumer Protection Act consultations.
- Supported the Race to Reduce, a Civic Action program that represents a unique collaboration between office building landlords and tenants to encourage smart energy use. The Race to Reduce guides organizations, landlords, tenants and employees to increase awareness of their energy use, measure and monitor energy use, change the way they operate, change the equipment they use to reduce energy use and improve their energy efficiency. Every year, we host the Annual BOMA Energy and Environment Forum.
- Was named the recipient of the 2012 “Associations Make a Better Canada” Award by the Canadian Society of Association Executives for the successful development and execution of its BOMA Conservation and Demand Management Program. One of BOMA’s goals is to actively promote conservation and sustainability. BOMA is the first association to have delivered a CDM program directly to its members. The BOMA CDM model was simple and effective. It achieved substantial and verifiable electricity conservation totaling 50 MW.


Cost Eligibility

BOMA agrees that the Board should consider whether a party represents the direct interests of consumers (e.g. ratepayers) in relation to energy services that are regulated by the Board.

In this regard, while BOMA tries to work with groups with similar interests, different ratepayer groups or classes may not always have similar interests. For example, while the representatives of some ratepayer

groups are sometimes indifferent, or even hostile to utilities pursuing conservation and demand management ("CDM"), BOMA's members invest heavily in sustainability within their facilities, and appreciate the important role utilities play in CDM. While rates are important, our members are also focussed on their bills, including their accuracy, timing, predictability and amount. BOMA strongly urges OEB support for utility programs to encourage conservation in accordance with Ontario government policy.

Signed this 5 day of June, 2014

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Conway". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the last letter.

Chris Conway, President and Chief Staff Officer, BOMA