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**By electronic filing**

July 25, 2014

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

Dear Ms. Walli,

**Consultation on the Effectiveness of Part II of the *Energy Consumer Protection Act, 2010***

**Board File No.: EB-2014-0158**

**Our File No.: 339583-000003**

We are writing to register the interest of Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (“CME”) in this consultation and to seek cost award eligibility.

**1. CME and its Interest in this Proceeding**

CME is Canada’s leading business network. Its members represent 75% of manufactured output in the Province of Ontario, and 90% of all exports. 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. 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.

CME’s mandate and objectives, its membership and the constituency it represents, and the types of programs and activities by which it carries out its mandate, are described on CME’s website, [www.cme-mec.ca](http://www.cme-mec.ca). CME’s priority objectives related to Energy and the Environment are summarized in Attachment 1.

Some of CME members are small business enterprises which may fall within the ambit of Part II of the *Energy Consumer Protection Act, 2010* (the “*ECPA*”).

More importantly, measures adopted to provide greater transparency in relation to the contract prices and contract terms and conditions between electricity retailers and natural gas marketers, and low volume electricity and natural gas consumers will materially influence the contracting practices between retailers and marketers and larger consumers like most of the members of CME.

CME believes that the experiences of its members with the retail energy markets could help inform the Board’s review of the effectiveness of the current legislative and regulatory regime with respect to the protection of low volume electricity and natural gas consumers.

**2. Nature and Scope of CME's Intended Participation**

CME intends to review the materials to be provided as a consequence of the consumer research activities to be conducted by Innovative Research Group ("Innovative"). CME also intends to participate in the stakeholder forum pertaining to the effectiveness of the *ECPA* and opportunities for improvement, as well as the subsequent stakeholder meeting to discuss the findings that result from the foregoing research activities.

**3. Request for Cost Award Eligibility**

CME seeks a determination that it is eligible for a cost award on the grounds that its ability to participate in this proceeding is dependent upon such a determination. In many prior proceedings, the Board has determined that CME is eligible for a cost award.

**4. BLG's Representation of CME**

Borden Ladner Gervais ("BLG") represents CME under the auspices of a written retainer agreement executed by Ian Howcroft, Vice-President of CME's Ontario Division. BLG's mandate is to represent the interests of manufacturers in those Ontario Energy Board ("OEB") proceedings which are likely to have an impact on the reliability, quality of service, and/or rates for electricity and natural gas distribution services provided to manufacturers. Paul Clipsham, Director of Policy – Ontario Division of CME, is the individual with whom BLG liaises.

**5. CME Contacts**

If the relief sought in this letter is granted, then CME requests that further communications with respect to this matter be sent to the following:

<p>Paul Clipsham Director of Policy – Ontario Division Canadian Manufacturers &amp; Exporters 6725 Airport Road Suite 200 Mississauga, ON L4V 1V2</p> <p>Tel (289) 566-9538 Fax (905) 672-1764 email <a href="mailto:paul.clipsham@cme-mec.ca">paul.clipsham@cme-mec.ca</a></p>	<p>Borden Ladner Gervais LLP Barristers &amp; Solicitors 100 Queen Street Suite 1300 Ottawa ON K1P 1J9</p> <p>Main Fax: (613) 230-8842</p>	<p>Peter C.P. Thompson, Q.C. Tel (613) 787-3528 email <a href="mailto:pthompson@blg.com">pthompson@blg.com</a></p> <p>Vincent J. DeRose Tel (613) 787-3589 email <a href="mailto:vderose@blg.com">vderose@blg.com</a></p> <p>Emma Blanchard Tel (613) 369-4755 email <a href="mailto:eblanchard@blg.com">eblanchard@blg.com</a></p>
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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 and Ian Shaw  
OTT01: 6452762: v1

## Attachment 1

### About CME and Its Representation in OEB Proceedings

Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (“CME”) is Canada’s leading business network. It represents more than 10,000 leading companies nationwide and through various initiatives, touches more than 100,000 companies from coast-to-coast, engaged in manufacturing, international trade, and service-related industries. More than 85% of its members are Small to Medium sized Enterprises (“SMEs”). In Ontario, CME has about 1,400 members representing about 75% of manufactured output and about 90% of all exports.

One of CME’s priorities is to improve the business climate for manufacturers. Initiatives pertaining to Energy and the Environment fall within the scope of this objective and include efforts by CME to ensure that its members enjoy continued access to a reliable and cost competitive supply of energy and electricity across Canada.

In this context, CME seeks an Ontario electricity system for its members which is reliable, affordable, cost effective and economically sustainable with electricity prices for Ontario manufacturers which are competitive with electricity prices available to manufacturers located elsewhere.

Similarly, CME seeks a secure supply of natural gas at burner-tip prices in the plants of Ontario manufacturers which are competitive with such prices for manufacturers located elsewhere.

For further information on CME, please visit their website at [www.cme-mec.ca](http://www.cme-mec.ca).

CME’s authorized representative in proceedings before the Ontario Energy Board (the “Board” or “OEB”) is Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (“BLG”) represented by Peter C.P. Thompson, Q.C. and Vincent J. DeRose, with support from other BLG associates. BLG’s representation of CME in proceedings before the Board is pursuant to a written retainer agreement executed on behalf of CME by Ian Howcroft, Vice-President – Ontario Division of CME.

BLG’s mandate is to represent the interests of manufacturers in those OEB proceedings which are likely to have an impact on the rates which Ontario manufacturers pay for utility services. Paul Clipsham, Director of Policy – Ontario Division of CME, is the individual with whom BLG representatives liaise.