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By electronic filing

September 30, 2014

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

Dear Ms. Walli,

2014 Natural Gas Market Review (the "Review")
Consultation and Stakeholder Conference
Board File No.: EB-2014-0289
Our File No.: 339583-000185

We are writing on behalf of our client, Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters ("CME"), being one of the parties granted cost award eligibility in the EB-2014-0199 proceeding.

The Board's letter of September 19, 2014, invites stakeholders to advise of any additional issues which they believe should be discussed at the Stakeholder Conference.

We have been provided with a copy of Mr. Quinn's letter to the Board dated September 30, 2014, suggesting the addition of certain issues related to the recent past evolution of the market and the Board's regulatory framework/policies. We support Mr. Quinn's proposals which appear to us to be subsumed within the broad scope of the objectives stated in the September 19, 2014 letter. Those broad objectives include "any regulatory implications arising from the Review and any other key issues that should be considered by the Board." Having regard to the breadth of these objectives, we are not proposing any additional issues.

Appendix A to the Board's September 19, 2014 letter contemplates that cost eligible stakeholders may retain an expert to prepare a separate submission for the Stakeholder Conference.

We wish to advise that, in collaboration with other ratepayer representatives, we are considering the retainer of an expert to assist us in this proceeding. Ideally, a final determination of the need for such expert assistance would be made after the reports to be prepared by the Board's consultants have been posted. However, the current schedule appears to contemplate a short period of time between the posting of these reports sometime between the middle and end of December and the Stakeholder Conference which is scheduled to commence on December 3, 2014.

In these circumstances, it is probable that the collaborating ratepayer representatives will be required to determine the need for expert assistance before the reports of the Board's consultants have been posted, with the work to be done by that expert to be finalized after the posting of those reports.

We urge the Board to consider advancing the date of the posting of the reports of its consultants towards the beginning of November so as to minimize the potential for duplication in the work being done by experts.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Peter C.P. Thompson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Peter C.P. Thompson

PCT\slc

c. Interested Parties EB-2014-0289
Paul Clipsham and Ian Shaw (CME)
Vince DeRose and Emma Blanchard (BLG)

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