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File No. 339583-000183

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January 16, 2015

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

Dear Ms. Walli

Re:

Consultation on the Effectiveness of Part II of the Energy

Consumer Protection Act, 2010

**Questions for Supplementary Written Comments** 

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

I am writing on behalf of Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters ("CME"). As we acknowledged when we originally sought intervenor status, this consultation is primarily focussed on residential customers. For this reason, we have not participated actively, but instead, monitored the issues being assessed and the submissions of parties to determine whether broader implications are raised that could impact manufacturers across the Province of Ontario.

We have completed our review of all of the various submissions, and wish to confirm to the Board that we have not identified any issues of concern.

That said we do wish to reinforce the importance of transparency in electricity and gas contracting. This has been a theme that was addressed by many of the participants in this proceeding.

CME supports any actions that the Board takes which result in an increase of consumers' awareness of exactly what they are buying. Put another way - full, complete, unequivocal disclosure of what is (or is not) covered in such contracts benefits consumers.

We note that some of the active participants raised concerns about the complexity of electricity pricing, in particular with respect to the global adjustment. These other parties have highlighted how easy it is for consumers in Ontario to enter into contracts without properly



understanding the pricing that will flow from those contracts. To the extent that transparency in contracts can be increased, this would benefit consumers.

We realize that all comments were due on January 12, 2015. We apologize for this letter not being submitted on that date. In light of the fact that our participation in this proceeding was limited to ensuring that parties were not raising issues that had implications for larger rate classes where the majority of CME's members reside, we do not believe that any parties have been prejudiced by the delay.

Yours very truly

Vincent J. DeRose

VJD/kt

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