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## **BY E-MAIL AND WEB POSTING**

February 17, 2015

**To: All Licensed Electricity Distributors  
All Natural Gas Distributors  
All Participants in Consultation Process EB-2008-0150  
All Interested Parties**

**Re: 2013 LEAP Emergency Financial Assistance & Winter Warmth Results**

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The purpose of this letter is to provide an update on the results of the Board's Low-Income Energy Assistance Program ("LEAP") Emergency Financial Assistance ("EFA") and Winter Warmth programs reported by electricity and natural gas distributors for 2013. For the complete results see Attachment A to this letter.

### **2013 LEAP Results – Electricity Distributors**

On April 30, 2014, electricity distributors filed their annual LEAP EFA results for the period January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013, as part of the Board's Reporting and Record Keeping Requirements. In addition, they filed monthly monitoring data which captures demographic information about the applicants. A snap shot of the 2013 results with a comparison against 2012 is shown in the table below:

<b>Electricity Distributors</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>%Change</b>
LEAP Funds Available	<b>\$ 5,031,449</b>	\$ 4,733,771	+\$ 297,678	+6.3%
LEAP Funds Disbursed	<b>\$ 4,279,839</b>	\$ 3,946,644	+\$ 333,195	+8.4%
Applicants Assisted	<b>9,293</b>	8,053	+1,240	+15.4%
Average Grant	<b>\$ 399</b>	\$ 432	-\$ 33	-7.7%
# of Distributors that Exhausted Funds	<b>45 (of 75)</b>	44 (of 75)	+1	+2.3%

Some additional highlights:

- There was \$751,609 in remaining funds to be carried forward for use in 2014, in addition to the distributors' 2014 LEAP EFA funds;
- Social agency partners for 21 utilities did not retain administration costs; and
- According to the monthly monitoring data, the typical LEAP applicant is a renter, living in a house. The average monthly income of applicants was \$1,740 with average arrears of \$493.

### 2013 LEAP Results – Natural Gas Distributors

On April 30, 2014, the natural gas distributors filed their annual LEAP EFA and Winter Warmth results (as applicable) for the period January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013. As noted above, in 2012, Union had adequate funding from its court settlement to provide emergency financial assistance through the Winter Warmth program all year long. However, Enbridge delivered funds for the LEAP EFA.

The highlights of the combined results of LEAP EFA and Winter Warmth are shown in the table below. For a full breakdown of the LEAP EFA and Winter Warmth results, see Attachment A to this letter.

Natural Gas Distributors <sup>1</sup>	2013	2012	Change	%Change
LEAP and WW Funds Available	<b>\$ 2,314,018</b>	\$ 2,269,016	+\$ 45,002	+2.0%
LEAP and WW Funds Disbursed	<b>\$ 2,128,223</b>	\$ 2,134,411	-\$ 6,188	-0.3%
Applicants Assisted	<b>4,971</b>	4,889	+82	+1.7%
Average Grant	<b>\$ 364</b>	\$ 370	-\$ 6	-1.6%

Union and Enbridge had \$185,794 in remaining LEAP EFA and Winter Warmth funds to be carried forward for use in 2014.

<sup>1</sup> Utilities Kingston did not provide LEAP EFA data for 2012. For 2013, partial data was obtained from Utilities Kingston *Annual Report 2013*. Enbridge had a reporting period of 13 months for 2012 (Dec. 2011 - Dec. 2012).

Questions relating to this letter should be directed to the Board's Industry Relations Enquiry e-mail at [IndustryRelations@OntarioEnergyBoard.ca](mailto:IndustryRelations@OntarioEnergyBoard.ca).

Yours truly,

*Original Signed By*

A. Karim Karsan  
Vice President, Consumer Services