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Ontario Energy Board
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Via email to: BoardSec@Ontarioenergyboard.ca

To Whom it May Concern,

Subject: Staff Discussion Paper on a Cap and Trade Regulatory Framework for Natural Gas Utilities - EB-2015-0363

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the staff discussion paper regarding implementation of cap and trade as it applies to natural gas utilities in Ontario.

One aspect of the discussion paper that greatly concerns me, and which should concern all consumers of natural gas, is the suggestion that: *"...the per-cubic meter charge for facility-related obligation costs should be included in the delivery charge on the customer's bill. Staff also sees the merit of including the administrative costs in the delivery charge as both of these costs will be a cost of doing business."*

This suggestion removes the opportunity for transparency regarding the cost of acquiring allowances to offset emissions. As I see it, one of the goals of creating a price for carbon is to encourage actions by consumers to reduce their emissions. How will a consumer, such as our Timberstrand plant in Kenora, know what that cost is if it is not clearly stated?

The suggestion in the discussion paper to include the cost of allowances, and other administrative costs, in the delivery charge for natural gas seems contrary to helping consumers understand the cost of carbon. One would think that we should be encouraging transparency not making it more difficult to understand actual emission-related costs.

Thank you for the opportunity to express support for greater transparency in natural gas billing.

Sincerely,



Fred Dzida
President, Weyerhaeuser Company Limited

cc: Hon. Kathleen Wynne, Premier
Hon. Glenn Thibeault, Minister of Energy
Hon. Bill Mauro, Minister of Municipal Affairs

Hon. Kathryn McGarry, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry
Hon. Michael Gravelle, Minister of Northern Development and Mines
Hon. Glen Murray, Minister of Environment and Climate Change
MPP Sarah Campbell, Kenora