



# **ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

## **OEB STAFF SUBMISSION**

**Canadian RiteRate Energy Corporation  
(RiteRate)**

**Application for Gas Marketer Licence Renewal  
EB-2018-0161**

July 11, 2018

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## THE PROCEEDING

On April 23, 2018, RiteRate filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board under section 50 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (the Act) to renew its gas marketer licence.

On May 8, 2018, the OEB issued a Notice of Application and Written Hearing (the Notice) which included dates for filing of interrogatories and submissions. No parties responded to the Notice. In accordance with the timelines set out in the Notice, on June 7, 2018, OEB staff filed interrogatories on the application in order to gather additional information required for the OEB's final determination of the renewal application. On June 18, 2018, RiteRate filed responses to OEB staff interrogatories.

## THE APPLICANT

RiteRate currently markets natural gas in Ontario to both low-volume and large-volume consumers. The applicant has been marketing natural gas to low-volume consumers in Ontario since its inception in 2003. The company promotes its natural gas commodity programs on its website and is offering to its customers fixed rate, variable rate and monthly fixed dollar programs for natural gas.

## STAFF SUBMISSION

In assessing a gas marketer licence application OEB staff considers the entire application and in particular the financial viability, technical capability and past conduct of the applicant.

### **Financial Viability**

Having reviewed the evidence provided, OEB staff finds no issue with respect to the financial position of the applicant and submits that RiteRate can reasonably be expected to be financially responsible in the conduct of its business.

### **Technical Capability**

OEB staff submits that according to the application, RiteRate's key individuals reported to have extensive experience in the energy sector. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

## **Conduct**

Gas marketers in Ontario are required to comply with the Act, *Electricity Consumer Protection Act, 2010* (ECPA), regulations under these Acts and the Code of Conduct for Gas Marketers.

OEB staff's interrogatories to RiteRate sought to further the record with respect to RiteRate's plan to ensure compliance with its legal and regulatory obligations if the applicant were granted renewal of its licence, including assurance that the third party providers would also comply with legal and regulatory obligations. In its response to OEB staff's interrogatory #3, RiteRate provided a [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

An important factor in the OEB's review of a licence application is the applicant's past conduct. According to the OEB records and as stated in the application, there were no complaints about RiteRate's conduct filed with the OEB within the last two years.

RiteRate states that it maintains its online business model [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] RiteRate believes that its business model and operations attribute to its "no complaint" record. In addition, since the last renewal of its gas marketer licence in 2013, RiteRate has not been subject to any OEB enforcement proceedings.

## **CONCLUSION**

In consideration of the evidence filed, OEB staff submit that RiteRate has the adequate technical and financial capabilities to operate in the Ontario market. OEB staff is of the view that RiteRate has the appropriate systems, policies, procedures and controls in place to comply with its statutory and regulatory obligations.

All of which is respectfully submitted.