

## **BY EMAIL and RESS**

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Ontario Energy Board 2300 Yonge Street 27<sup>th</sup> Floor Toronto, Ontario M4P 1E4

Attn: Kirsten Walli, Board Secretary

Dear Ms. Walli:

Re: EB-2017-0127/8 – DSM Mid-Term Review

We are counsel for the School Energy Coalition. SEC has reviewed the letters from Enbridge and Union sent today, together with the letter from Mr. Elson and the presentations from Enbridge and Union.

The utility letters appear to take the position that the only changes to the DSM Plans that can be considered at the Mid-Term Review are the proposals made by the utilities for "improvements" to their plans to make it easier to achieve shareholder incentives. SEC disagrees. All parties should be able to propose changes to the plans, or none should be able to do so.

The perception that the Mid-Term Review is already biased in favour of the utilities, while obviously not intended, is exacerbated by this proposed one-sided approach to the review. In our view, it should be rejected.

In this regard, we note two other things of importance.

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First, a request has been made by a number of parties to expand the review into two days, essentially to overcome the utilities' complaints that otherwise there is not enough time to deal with everything. SEC requests that the Board advise whether this has been considered, and whether it will be either implemented or rejected.

Second, can the Board confirm that the stakeholder review will be transcribed? In light of the nature of the issues to be addressed, and the levels of both dollars and conservation savings under discussion, SEC believes that it is important that this session be transcribed. It will be even more important to have an official record if, as a result of the process, any changes requested by the utilities are made, and parties wish to challenge those changes.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Yours very truly,

SHEPHERD RUBENSTEIN PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

Jay Shepherd

cc: Wayne McNally, SEC (email)

**Interested Parties**