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BY E-MAIL AND WEB POSTING

October 24, 2018

**To: All Rate-Regulated Natural Gas Distributors
All Participants in EB-2015-0245**

**Re: Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards
Natural Gas Demand Side Management Evaluation Advisory Committee
Board File No.: EB-2015-0245**

Background

On August 21, 2015 the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued [a letter](#) establishing the process to evaluate the results of Natural Gas Demand Side Management (DSM) programs from 2015 to 2020.

As part of the OEB's evaluation process, an Evaluation Advisory Committee (EAC) made up of experts representing both utility and non-utility stakeholders was formed.

In the August 21, 2015 letter, the OEB stated that cost awards would be available to eligible persons under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* in relation to their participation in the EAC.

Based on the criteria set out in section 3 of the OEB's *Practice and Direction on Cost Awards*, the OEB has determined that the following persons are eligible for an award of costs:

- Chris Neme, Energy Futures Group
- Jay Shepherd, Shepherd Rubenstein Professional Corporation
- Marion Fraser, Marion Fraser Enterprises Inc.
- Robert M. Wirtshafter, Wirtshafter Associates, Inc.
- Dr. Ted Kesik, University of Toronto

The August 21, 2015 letter indicated that costs awarded will be recovered from all rate-regulated natural gas distributors based on their respective distribution revenues. This

apportionment was consistent with the methodology that was in place at the time for allocating costs for cost assessment purposes under section 26 of the OEB Act. On February 9, 2016, the OEB issued [a letter](#) giving notice of changes to its Cost Assessment Model. Specifically, under the revised Cost Assessment Model cost assessments for distributors are now based on customer numbers rather than revenues. The OEB considers it appropriate to apportion cost awards for this initiative in a manner consistent with the revised Cost Assessment Model, and has therefore determined that costs awarded will be apportioned within the distributor class based on customer numbers rather than revenues.

On September 29, 2016 the OEB issued its first decision on cost awards for participation in the EAC. That cost award decision provided approval for costs related to EAC activities between August 21, 2015 and July 7, 2016.

On June 5, 2017 the OEB issued its second decision on cost awards for participation in the EAC. That cost award decision provided approval for costs related to EAC activities between July 8, 2016 and March 31, 2017.

On March 5, 2018 the OEB issued its third decision on cost award for participation in the EAC. That cost award decision provided approval for costs related to EAC activities between April 1, 2017 to October 31, 2017.

This notice of cost awards is in relation to EAC activities from November 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018. The maximum number of hours and eligible activities are outlined in Appendix A of this Notice.

Notice of Hearing

The OEB is initiating this hearing on its own motion in order to determine the cost awards that will be made in accordance with section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* in relation to eligible DSM evaluation consultation activities that have occurred since November 1, 2017.

The OEB intends to proceed by way of written hearing unless a party can satisfy the OEB that there is a good reason for not holding a written hearing. If a party wants to object to a written hearing, the objection must be received by the OEB no later than **7 days** after the date of this Notice.

Assuming that the OEB does not receive any objections to a written hearing, the hearing will follow the process set out below.

1. Eligible persons shall submit their cost claims by **November 5, 2018**. The cost claim must be filed with the OEB and one copy is to be served on each rate-regulated natural gas distributor. The cost claims must be completed in accordance with section 10 of the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

Eligible persons must use the customized Cost Claim Form attached as Appendix B to this Notice.

2. Natural gas distributors will have until **November 12, 2018** to object to any aspect of the costs claimed. The objection must be filed with the OEB and one copy must be served on the eligible person against whose claim the objection is being made.
3. An eligible person whose cost claim was objected to will have until **November 19, 2018** to make a reply submission as to why its cost claim should be allowed. A copy of the reply submission must be filed with the OEB and one copy is to be served on the objecting natural gas distributor.
4. The OEB will then issue its decision on cost awards. The OEB's costs may also be addressed in the cost awards decision.

Service of cost claims, objections and reply submissions on other parties may be effected by courier, registered mail, facsimile or e-mail.

The OEB will use the process set out in section 12 of its *Practice Direction on Cost Awards* to implement the payment of the cost awards. Therefore, the OEB will act as a clearing house for all payments of cost awards in this process. For more information on this process, please see the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards* and the October 27, 2005 letter regarding the rationale for the OEB acting as a clearing house for the cost award payments. These documents can be found on the OEB's website at www.oeb.ca on the "Rules, Guidelines and Forms" webpage.

Parties must file two paper copies and one electronic copy of their filings with the Board Secretary by **4:45 pm** on the required dates. The OEB requests that parties make every effort to provide electronic copies of their filings in searchable / unrestricted Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format, and to submit their filings through the OEB's web portal at <https://pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/>. A user ID is required to submit documents through the OEB's web portal. If you do not have a user ID, please visit the "e-filings services" webpage on the OEB's website at www.oeb.ca, and fill out a user ID password request. Additionally, interested parties are requested to follow the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the document entitled "RESS Document Preparation – A Quick Guide" also found on the e-filing services

webpage. If the OEB's web portal is not available, electronic copies of filings may be filed by e-mail to Boardsec@oeb.ca. Persons that do not have internet access should provide a CD containing their filing in PDF format.

All filings must quote file number **EB-2015-0245** and include your name, address telephone number and, where available, your e-mail address and fax number.

All filings in this hearing (i.e., cost claims, objections, or replies), will form part of the public record. Copies of the filings will be available for inspection at the OEB's office during normal business hours and the filings may be placed on the OEB's website. If the filing is from a private citizen (i.e., not a lawyer representing a client, not a consultant representing a client or organization, not an individual in an organization that represents the interests of consumers or other groups, and not an individual from a regulated entity), before making the filing available for viewing at the OEB's offices or placing the filing on the OEB's website, the OEB will remove any personal (i.e., not business) contact information from the filing (i.e., the address, fax number, phone number, and e-mail address of the individual). However, the name of the individual and the content of the filing may be available for viewing at the OEB's offices and will be placed on the OEB's website.

If you do not file a letter objecting to a written hearing or do not participate in the hearing by filing written materials in accordance with this Notice, the OEB may proceed without your participation and you will not be entitled to further notice in this proceeding.

Dated at Toronto, October 24, 2018

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary

Attachments - Appendix A and B

Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards Dated October 24, 2018

Natural Gas Demand Side Management – Evaluation Advisory Committee (EB-2015-0245)

Appendix A: Natural Gas DSM Evaluation Advisory Committee Consultation Activities for Which Cost Claims may be Filed and Maximum Number of Hours

	Activity Eligible for Cost Awards	Date of Request or Meeting	Maximum Number of Hours (Meeting Time x 1.5 for prep)
1	2016 Annual Verification Plan & Draft Annual Reports - Review and Comment	November 15, 2017	4
2	EAC Call - Review of Annual Verification Plan & Procurement Update	November 22, 2017	9
3	2016 CPSV Scope of Work - Review and Comment	November 28, 2017	2
4	EAC Terms of Reference - Review and Comment	December 5, 2017	1
5	EAC In-person meeting - 2016 CPSV Scope of Work, 2016 Procurement Update and EAC ToR (9 hours)	December 6, 2017	13.5
6	Revised 2016 CPSV Sample Design - Review and Comment	December 8, 2017	0.5
7	Updated TRM sub-docs - Review and Comment	December 11, 2017	1
8	2015 post-mortem questionnaire - Review and Comment	December 11, 2017	1
9	Review and Comment - Code of Conduct for data collection	December 18, 2017	0.5
10	EAC Call - 2015 post-mortem, Code of Conduct discussion, TRM sub-docs	December 20, 2017	3
11	Ad Hoc tasks (Boiler Baseline Study)	varies	2
12	EAC Call	January 10, 2018	3
13	DSMI, LRAM calculations, review and comment	January 19, 2018	1
14	EAC Call	January 24, 2018	3
15	Measure Life Study: Draft Work plan review and comment	January 26, 2018	1.5
16	E: CEM, U:SEM, U: Run Smart, 2015 AV Report Structure review and comment	January 26, 2018	1
17	EAC Call	January 31, 2018	3
18	EAC Call	February 7, 2018	3
19	Measure Life Study: Data Request	February 9, 2018	1
20	E: Comm SBD, U: Opt Home, E: School's EC, E: LI NC review and comment	February 9, 2018	1
21	EAC Call	February 14, 2018	3
22	Draft custom spillover memo review and comment	February 16, 2018	1
23	E: Res SBD, U: C&I Pres review and comment	February 16, 2018	1
24	E: C&I Prescriptive review and comment	February 20, 2018	0.5
25	EAC Call	February 21, 2018	3
26	Measure Life Study: Draft measure selection review and comment	February 23, 2018	1.5
27	E: C&I Direct Install, E: Res Ad Therm, U: Furnace EOL, Terms of Reference	February 23, 2018	1
28	EAC Call	February 28, 2018	3
29	Measure Life Study: Prep for applying measure lives	March 2, 2018	1
30	E: LI MF, U: LI MF SA, U: LI MF MR review and comment	March 2, 2018	1
31	EAC Call	March 7, 2018	3
32	E: HEC, E: LI Pt 9, U: HRR, U: Home Weatherization review and comment	March 16, 2018	1.5

Activity Eligible for Cost Awards		Date of Request or Meeting	Maximum Number of Hours (Meeting Time x 1.5 for prep)
33	EAC Call	March 21, 2018	3
34	E: RiR, E: Energy Leaders, NDA	March 23, 2018	1
35	EAC Call	March 28, 2018	3
36	CPSV - Batch 1 Review and Comment (15 Reports)	March 30, 2018	4
37	EAC Call - CPSV Batch 1	April 4, 2018	3
38	EAC Call	April 11, 2018	3
39	CPSV - Batch 2 Review and Comment (24 Reports)	April 21, 2018	6
40	Measure Life Study: Draft Report review and comment	April 23, 2018	2
41	EAC Call - CPSV Batch 2	April 25, 2018	3
42	EAC Call	May 2, 2018	3
43	Ad Hoc tasks (HOT2000 Air Sealing Analysis)	May 3, 2018	4
44	TRM Update Process - Comments	May 4, 2018	1
45	EAC Call	May 9, 2018	3
46	CPSV - Batch 3 Review and Comment (21 Reports)	May 11, 2018	5.5
47	Second draft spillover memo review and comment	May 11, 2018	1
48	EAC Call - CPSV Batch 3	May 16, 2018	3
49	EAC Call	May 23, 2018	3
50	CPSV - Batch 4 Review and Comment (23 Reports)	May 25, 2018	6
51	C&I Prescriptive Work Plan	May 28, 2018	1.5
52	EAC Call- CPSV Batch 4	May 30, 2018	3
53	EAC Call	June 6, 2018	3
54	CPSV - Batch 5 Review and Comment (39 Reports)	June 15, 2018	9.5
55	TRM Update Work plan	June 15, 2018	1
56	EAC Call - CPSV Batch 5	June 20, 2018	3
57	C&I Prescriptive Sample Design	July 13, 2018	1
58	2016 CPSV Draft Report - Review and Comments	July 13, 2018	3
59	EAC Call	July 18, 2018	3
60	Appendix L and Large Volume review and comment	July 19, 2018	1.5
61	C&I Prescriptive Survey Instruments	July 20, 2018	1.5
62	EAC Call	July 25, 2018	3
63	EAC Call	August 2, 2018	1.5
64	2016 Draft AV Report - Comments	August 10, 2018	2.5
65	EAC Call	August 15, 2018	3
66	2016 AV Report - workbooks and cost effectiveness review and comment	September 5, 2018	1
67	TRM Update: Draft updated TRM measures review and comment	September 7, 2018	1
68	EAC Call	September 12, 2018	3

TOTAL MAXIMUM HOURS 161

Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards Dated October 24, 2018

**Natural Gas Demand Side Management –
Evaluation Advisory Committee (EB-2015-0245)**

**Appendix B: Ontario Energy Board Cost Claim for Consultations:
Affidavit and Summary of Fees and Disbursements**

The forms that eligible persons must complete are provided in a separate MS Excel Workbook named, “EB-2015-0245 NOH Appendix B Cost Claim Form – October 2018”.