John A.D. Vellone T 416.367.6730 F 416.367.6749 jvellone@blg.com

Flora Ho T 416.367.6581 F 416.367.6749 fho@blg.com

June 6, 2019

Delivered by Email, RESS & Courier

Ms. Kirsten Walli Board Secretary Ontario Energy Board 2300 Yonge Street Suite 2701 Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

Re: Kitchener-Wilmot Hydro Inc. 2020 Cost of Service Application ("Application") Distributed Resource Coalition - Notice of Intervention EB-2019-0049

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

22 Adelaide Street West

T 416 367 6000

F 416 367 6749

blg.com

Bay Adelaide Centre Fast Tower

Toronto, ON, Canada M5H 4E3

We are counsel to Kitchener-Wilmot Hydro Inc. ("**KWHI**") in respect of the above noted matter. We are writing to object to the Notice of Intervention filed by counsel to Distributed Resource Coalition ("**DRC**") on June 3, 2019 (as corrected June 4, 2019).

(a) Objection to the notice of intervention

DRC has failed to demonstrate that any of their members are customers of KWHI who would be directly affected by the outcome of this proceeding.

Paragraph 6 of the Notice of Intervention states:

"The members of DRC in connection with this proceeding are KWHI customers that include, subject to further update, the Electric Vehicle Society (end-used electric vehicle electricity customers) and Plug'n Drive."

Plug'n Drive is a not-for-profit industry association located in North York, Ontario that is committed to accelerating the adoption of electric vehicles.¹ It is not a customer of KWHI who would be directly affected by the outcome of this proceeding.



¹ See Appendix A and <u>https://www.plugndrive.ca/ab</u>out-us/

The Electric Vehicle Society is a not-for profit advocacy group located in Dundas, Ontario advocating for electric mobility.² It is not a customer of KWHI who would be directly affected by the outcome of this proceeding.

The Electric Vehicle Society's website identifies a number of corporate members including:

- EVdirect (Toronto),
- Yet-E-Boot (address unlisted),
- the Montreal Electric Vehicle Show (Montreal, QC),
- JML Electric Inc. (Oakville),
- inMotive (Toronto),
- Fearless Charge and Power Inc. (address unlisted),
- Xergy Energy (Toronto),
- EnerPower Electric Ltd. (Newmarket), and
- Electric Mobility Canada (Ile des Soeurs, QC).

None of these corporate members are customers of KWHI that would be directly affected by the outcome of this proceeding.

Based on this information, it is not clear to KWHI the basis of DRC's claim that it represents a customer of KWHI that would be directly affected by the outcome of this proceeding. No directly affected customers have been identified.

To the extent DRC claims in a generic fashion to represent the interests of residential, commercial, and industrial customers who may deploy distributed energy resources, these customers are already represented by various parties in this proceeding (i.e. Board Staff, Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition, School Energy Coalition, and Energy Probe).

We would refer the Board also to its July 26, 2018 determination in Procedural Order No. 1 in EB-2018-0028, which addressed similar issues in respect of that electricity distribution application.³

(b) Objection to the request for cost eligibility

In the event DRC is able to demonstrate that it does represent an interest that would be directly affected by the outcome of this proceeding, KWHI also objects to DRC's request for cost eligibility under the Board's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards* ("**Practice Direction**").

² See Appendix B and <u>https://evsociety.ca/</u>

³ http://www.rds.oeb.ca/HPECMWebDrawer/Record/615127/File/document

KWHI is not a large utility. It is a municipally owned electricity distribution company that provides electricity distribution and related services to approximately 97,000 residential, commercial, industrial and institutional customers within the City of Kitchener and the Township of Wilmot. Any costs awards granted in this Application are funded by this small group of customers.

The members of the DRC represent industry groups aimed at promoting the adoption of electric vehicles specifically, and distributed energy resources more generally, into the electricity grid.⁴ The Electric Vehicle Society's corporate members are unified by a common thread – each stands to financially profit from the accelerated adoption of distributed energy resources, including electric vehicles.

KWHI submits that DRC does not represent the direct interests of electricity distribution ratepayers with regards to the services offered by KWHI and the Application and therefore DRC does not meet the Board's cost eligibility requirement under section 3.03(a) of the Practice Direction.

Rather, DRC is representing its members commercial interests (other than as a ratepayer) – by promoting the adoption of distributed energy resources (including electric vehicles). Pursuant to Section 3.04(b) of the Practice Direction, this is a relevant consideration in the Board's assessment of cost eligibility under Section 3.03(b) despite the fact that it could also be argued to serve an interest or policy perspective relevant to the Board's mandate and to this proceeding.

Yours very truly,

BORDEN LADNER GERVAIS LLP

Per:

Original signed by John A. D. Vellone

John A. D. Vellone

cc: Margaret Nanninga, Kitchener-Wilmot Hydro Inc. Jonathan McGillivary and Lisa DeMarco, Demarco Allan LLP Intervenors in EB-2019-0049

⁴ Paragraph 3 of DRC's Notice of Intervention.

Appendix "A"

Screenshot of <u>https://www.plugndrive.ca/about-us/</u> taken June 5, 2019.



Plug'n Drive

Plug'n Drive is a non-profit organization committed to accelerating the adoption of electric vehicles in order to maximize their environmental and economic benefits. Since 2011, Plug'n Drive has established itself as a leader in the electric vehicle industry, a trusted and unbiased source of information on electric cars, charging stations and the electricity sector.

Our Vision

To be Canada's champion for electric transportation.

Appendix "B"

Screenshot of https://evsociety.ca/ taken June 5, 2019.

