

Ontario | Commission Energy | de l'énergie Board | de l'Ontario

BY EMAIL AND WEB POSTING

September 16, 2020

To: All Licensed Electricity Retailers

Re: Consultation on Implementing the Process for Enabling Customers to Opt Out of Time-of-Use Pricing Stakeholder Meeting on the Role of the Smart Metering Entity Ontario Energy Board File No.: EB-2020-0152

On June 1, 2020, the Government of Ontario announced that it intended to enable consumers on the Regulated Price Plan (RPP) to opt out of TOU pricing in favour of tiered prices starting November 1, 2020, and it has issued an amended Regulation requiring this policy change. In order to implement the new requirement, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) has amended the Standard Supply Service Code (Final Notice) to ensure the timely, efficient and effective implementation of the new opt-out mechanism. The Final Notice explained that the OEB "intends to make changes to the OEB-approved price comparison templates that retailers are required to provide to low-volume consumers, in order to compare the retail price not only to TOU prices but also to tiered prices."

The attachments to this letter provide the proposed revised price comparison documents and the revised instructions. As a retailer will not be aware which pricing structure a prospective consumer is on and to minimize the number of versions required, the proposed price comparisons display both pricing structures, as well as the contract price, on the price comparison. The changes also propose that the comparisons vary seasonally, in accordance with seasonal changes in RPP TOU periods and tier thresholds, in order that the comparison remain as relevant as possible.

The OEB is inviting comments from licensed electricity retailers on the proposed revisions to the price comparison templates, as well as to the instructions for completing the price comparisons (see Attachments A and B). In order to provide retailers with final price comparison templates in advance of the November 1st implementation date set out in the Code, comments on the proposed changes are due on **September 23, 2020** and should be submitted in accordance with the filing instructions set out below.

All materials filed with the OEB must quote the file number, **EB-2020-0152**, be submitted in a searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the OEB's web portal at <u>https://pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice</u>. Filings must clearly state the sender's name, postal address, telephone number, fax number and e-mail address. Parties must use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the RESS Document Guideline found at <u>https://www.oeb.ca/industry</u>. If the web portal is not available, parties may email their documents to <u>boardsec@oeb.ca</u>.

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Board Secretary and be received no later than 4:45 p.m. on the required date.

Yours truly,

Original Signed By

Brian Hewson Vice President Consumer Protection & Industry Performance