

RECEIVED

JUL 24 2008

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Secretary *24/7/08*
Ontario Energy Board
Box 2319
Toronto
M4P 1E4

1076

2D

21 July 2008

RE: Board File No.: EB-2008-0150

Dear Sir or Madam,

Please be advised that EnviroCentre wishes **to participate in the** Consultation on Energy Issues Relating to Low Income Consumers to be held the week of September 22, 2008 and, given its status as a non-profit organization that represents a public interest relevant to the Board's mandate, **requests cost eligibility.**

Please find attached a written submission identifying the nature of EnviroCentre's interest in this process and the grounds on which it believes it is eligible for an award of costs.

Yours truly,

Dana Silk

Dr. Dana Silk
General Manager

Dana.Silk@ottawa.ca

Fax: 613-580-2494

EB-2008-0150

OEB BOARD SECRETARY	
File No:	SubFile: <i>5</i>
Panel	
Licensing	<i>MHare, Takis P.</i>
Other	<i>George D.</i>
00/04	

Submission Regarding EnviroCentre's Cost Eligibility

For over 10 years, EnviroCentre has been the leading non-profit organization in Eastern Ontario that focuses on helping low-income consumers reduce their energy consumption and bills.

Although EnviroCentre is the City of Ottawa's non-profit partner for delivering energy-efficiency services, it receives no funding from the City or any other source to support its work on policy development. EnviroCentre was awarded a modest scholarship from the National Low Income Energy Consortium to enable it to make a presentation at the National Energy and Utility Affordability Conference in Denver, Colorado in June 2008.

In 1999, EnviroCentre started working with the Ottawa Community Housing Corporation and has since worked with the following organizations on cost-effective, low-income energy conservation programs with total investments exceeding \$1 million and benefiting over 1,500 low-income households:

- Gloucester Non-Profit Housing Corporation
- Centretown Citizens Ottawa Corporation
- Ottawa Coalition of Community Houses
- Coalition of Community Health and Resource Centres of Ottawa
- Entraide Budgétaire et Dossier Hydro
- Ontario Power Authority
- Hydro One Networks Inc
- Hydro Ottawa Limited
- City of Ottawa (Employment and Financial Assistance Branch)
- Enbridge Gas Distribution

EnviroCentre would be represented at the consultation by its General Manager, Dr Dana Silk, whose professional experience as an analyst and consultant in this field dates back to 1984 when he was contracted by the federal department of Energy, Mines and Resources to prepare a report on Consumer Protection for Energy Conservation. Please see his attached CV for more details.

In addition to being invited to several recent low-income consultations of the Ontario Power Authority, Dr Silk also intervened on behalf of EnviroCentre in August 2004 before the Standing Committee on Social Policy of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario regarding the Electricity Restructuring Act. A highlight of his intervention is described in the following exchange between Mr Rosario Marchese (Trinity-Spadina) and the (late) Honourable Charles Caccia:

Mr Marchese:

I appreciate your recommendation around how we help low-income consumers, because that's a concern to many of us. At the moment, we estimate the government is spending one dollar to help low-income people for every \$20 extra they are paying. We heard other speakers before you who indicated prices need to go up, and at least the previous speaker [Dr Silk] said we need to protect those individuals who are of low income. I'm profoundly worried, given the current way we're helping low-income people. If we've got to jack up the prices one way or the other, I'm not totally convinced the support is going to be there for low-income people. So I was thinking the members might be speaking to your suggestion here, and I hope they will take that into account.

Mr Caccia:

Well, the previous speaker, Dr Silk, if I understood him correctly, made reference to the fact that, actually, of the percentage of total expenditures in the household, electricity expenditures have lagged behind the increases in expenditures related to other items in the average family, which, I thought, was a very valid observation. But the fact is that we, as a society, consider electricity as being a free good, a limitless good, and therefore it's only a matter of supply. While, this may have been true in the 1970s, when Ontario Hydro was advertising more and more consumption and was urging everybody to consume—you remember those ads, I'm sure—now we have entered a completely different phase and electricity is no longer that good or that easy. The fact is that energy is an insatiable monster and it will never be fed sufficiently. So we, as a species walking on this ground, have to decide where to draw the line and how, and the sooner we do it the better because we have this large issue ahead of us, the implementation of Kyoto, which in part depends on electricity decisions.

If EnviroCentre is able to participate in the upcoming consultation, it would provide a unique perspective on this matter, one that balances its longstanding efforts to help low-income households deal with increasing energy prices with its commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions from households of all income levels.

Based on its intervention before the Standing Committee in 2004, EnviroCentre would develop, present and defend an argument that Ontario needs to deal with this issue in a way that addresses social equity while giving due regard to economic and environmental responsibility.

CURRICULUM VITAE

DANA SILK

404 - 15 Murray Street, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1N 9M5
Phone : 613-255-8557 Fax : 613-789-3114 e-mail : danasilk@magma.ca

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

General Manager, EnviroCentre Ottawa (1998 - present) Responsible for all personnel (6-12) and programs of this non-profit organization that delivers energy-efficiency programs in the residential, commercial, institutional, and transportation sectors. Based at the City of Ottawa, it has delivered over 8,500 EnerGuide for Houses evaluations, worked with the Ontario Power Authority, Hydro One, Hydro Ottawa, and Enbridge Gas Distribution on low-income energy conservation programs, and helped numerous churches, small businesses and institutions in addition to engaging over 10,000 Ottawa residents in more sustainable transportation programs.

National Director, Canadian Environmental Network Ottawa (1997-1998) Responsible for all staff (7-10) and programs of this secretariat, which facilitated the work of environmental NGOs throughout Canada. The CEN works through a number of issue-based caucuses as well as with Affiliate Networks in all provinces, the North, and the First Nations community.

Consultant (1984-1997) Preparation and presentation of research reports and negotiation of policy positions for various clients, including Environment Canada (Ottawa); Friends of the Earth (Ottawa); National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy (Ottawa); UNESCO (Paris); and the World Commission on Environment and Development (Geneva).

Policy Advisor, National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy (NRTEE), Ottawa (1994-1995) Responsibility included facilitation of *Canadian Choices for Transitions to Sustainability*, the National Sustainable Development Strategy prepared by the *Projet de société*, Canada's national multistakeholder process dedicated to planning for a sustainable future.

Editor, Division of Ecological Sciences, UNESCO (1990-1993) Responsible for *Nature & Resources*, UNESCO's quarterly review of interdisciplinary research for sustainable development, printed in six languages and over 20,000 copies. Publishing director of the World Bank/UNESCO book, *Environmentally Sustainable Economic Development: Building on Brundtland*.

Research Assistant, Food-Energy Nexus Programme (FEN), United Nations University (UNU), Paris (1984-1989) Responsible for all programme activities related to integrated food-energy systems, including liaison with research partners and monitoring of food-energy research undertaken by other organizations, primarily in less developed countries.

Executive Director, Conservation Council of New Brunswick, Fredericton (1980-1983) Responsible for all programmes and staff (5 to 12) of this non-profit organization, including the establishment of "Conserver House", a demonstration centre for residential energy conservation and renewable energy technologies.

Executive Director, N.B. Division of the Community Planning Association of Canada, Saint John, N.B. (1976-1979) Responsible for all programmes and staff (3 to 10) of this non-profit organization concerned with promoting public participation in the planning process.

RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS, PAPERS and REPORTS

- 2005 *When Energy Efficiency Building Science Meets Reality*, 10th Canadian Conference on Building Science and Technology, CMHC, Ottawa, 9 pp., 2005
- 2005 Prospects for Energy Conservation in Condos, *CM Magazine*, Summer 2005, Association of Condominium Managers of Ontario, Toronto, 4 pp.
- 2004 *Energy Efficiency in Canada: Obstacles and Opportunities*, 8th Canadian Pollution Prevention Roundtable, Ottawa, 24 pp.
- 2001 *A Manual for Making the Most of Green Home Visits*, Community-based social marketing techniques designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through transportation demand management, EnviroCentre, Ottawa, 74 pp.
- 2000 *Walking the Talk in Ottawa. Climate Change Communications*, University of Waterloo, 7 pp.
- 1996 *National and International Perspectives on Ozone Depleting Substances*, Environment Canada, 28 pp.
- 1995 Employment and Sustainable Development in Canada, ILO, 18 pp. (with Sandy Scott)
- 1995 Sustainable Development and the Halifax Summit, NRTEE, 4 pp.
- 1995 Sustainability mediators: Forging more effective partnerships through individuals, *National Round Table Review*, Winter
- 1993 *The cutting edge of sustainable development*, CIDA, 15 pp.
- 1990 *L'écosystème urbain, potentiel de ressources : agriculture urbaine, gestion de l'eau, habitat, construction, économie d'énergie, recyclage des déchets*, French environment department, Paris, 109 pp., (with M. Zanoni et al.)
- 1990 *Food and Energy: Strategies for Sustainable Development*, UNU, Tokyo, 83 pp. (with Ignacy Sachs).
- 1985 *Urban agriculture*, Background report commissioned by the World Commission on Environment and Development, Geneva
- 1985 *Food-energy nexus research in Canada*, UNU, Paris, 56 pp.
- 1984 *Consumer protection for energy conservation*, Energy, Mines and Resources, Ottawa
- 1981 *IEA and energy conservation*, Energy, Mines and Resources, Ottawa
- 1979 *Energy conservation in Sweden*, Energy, Mines and Resources, Ottawa
- 1979 *Plugging into the sun: a report on the Tennessee Valley Authority*, Institute of Man and Resources, Charlottetown
- 1978 *Report on the Potential of Consumer Animation for Energy Conservation*, New Brunswick Division, Community Planning Association of Canada, Saint John

OTHER EXPERIENCE

- 2008 **Promising Results from Eastern Ontario**, National Energy and Utility Affordability Conferece, Denver, Colorado
- 2007 **Building A Community of Practice**, Ontario Power Authority, Toronto
- 2007 various consultations, Ontario Power Authority, Toronto

- 2004 **Energy Conservation in Condominiums in Ontario**, Association of Condominium Managers of Ontario Energy Strategies Forum, Ottawa
- 1998 **Global Environment Outlook Report** Expert Review Group, UNEP, New York
- 1998 **Social Ecology Network** (REDES), CIDA/ESDP Exploratory Phase mission, Montevideo, Uruguay
- 1996 **Montreal Protocol** Open Ended Working Group and Meeting of the Parties, UNEP, Geneva
- 1996 **Prospects for Hydrocarbon Technology in the Global Domestic Refrigeration Market**, World Bank workshop, Schaffhausen, Switzerland
- 1996 **OzonAction Programme** Advisory Group Meeting, UNEP-IE, Paris
- 1995 **UN Commission on Sustainable Development**, Canadian Delegation, New York
- 1994 **Projet de société** Fourth National Stakeholders Assembly, Ottawa
- 1993 **Projet de société** Third National Stakeholders Assembly, Ottawa
- 1991 **St. Francis Prize for the Environment** jury meeting, Pontifical Academy of Science, Rome
- 1991 **Global 500 Award/World Environment Day** ceremonies, UNEP, Stockholm
- 1989 **Renewable Energy for Rural Development**, Global Energy Centre workshop, New Delhi
- 1988 **Environmental Impacts of Production and Use of Biomass**, UNEP/Beijer Institute Expert Review Group meeting, Lausanne
- 1985 **Integrated Food-Energy Systems in Rwanda**, UNU mission, Rwanda
- 1984 **Energy Conserving Technologies in the Post-harvest Cycle**, UNU, Torun
- 1982 **Canada-US Environment Committee** meetings, Washington, D.C.
- 1982 **World Energy -- Is There a Solution?** conference, Medellin, Colombia
- 1981 **UN Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy**, Nairobi
- 1981 **IEA Conference on Energy Conservation**, Berlin
- 1976 **HABITAT - UN Conference on Human Settlements**, Vancouver

FORMAL EDUCATION

Doctorat de l'Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales *Le potentiel des résidus organiques pour l'écodéveloppement au Rwanda*. Recherches comparatives sur le développement: Environnements-économies-sociétés, EHESS, Paris (1983-1994)

Master of Forestry *Biophysical classification of the coastal zone of Atlantic Canada* Faculty of Forestry, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton (1973-1975)

Bachelor of Design Environmental Planning, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, Halifax (1971-1973). Department of Interior Design, Faculty of Architecture, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg (1969-1971); Faculty of Arts, Prince of Wales College, Charlottetown (1968-1969)

January 2008