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April 7, 2022

Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street
27th Floor
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Attention: Nancy Marconi, Registrar

Dear Ms. Marconi:

**Re: Low Income Energy Network (LIEN)
Intervention and Cost Eligibility Request
Framework for Review of Intervenor Processes and Cost Awards
OEB File No. EB-2022-0011**

Willms & Shier Environmental Lawyers LLP is counsel for the Low-Income Energy Network (“LIEN”). LIEN requests eligibility to intervene in the Ontario Energy Board’s Framework for Review of Intervenor Processes and Cost Awards proceeding. LIEN also seeks eligibility for a cost award.

LOW-INCOME ENERGY NETWORK

LIEN represents approximately 70 member groups across Ontario. As a network representing the intersection of interests related to low-income consumers and energy and sustainability, LIEN’s focus is on reducing the energy bills of all low-income consumers and providing low-income consumers the opportunity to better manage their energy bills. In so doing LIEN addresses customer care matters, commodity prices and rates, and DSM/CDM matters. LIEN helps to ensure that low-income consumers across Ontario have access to conservation programs, technologies and services as well as conservation education, and realize the environmental, energy and economic benefits associated with the more efficient use of energy.

NATURE AND SCOPE OF INTERVENTION

LIEN intends to intervene in this proceeding because low-income consumers will or may be affected by this proceeding. This proceeding will affect what parties, and/or in what circumstances parties, may be eligible to intervene in future OEB proceedings. LIEN provides a voice to low-income consumers and will ensure that this group continues to be represented in proceedings before the OEB. LIEN plays a crucial role in acting in the public interest and adding value to proceedings.

LIEN intervened in the OEB's previous proceeding to review the framework governing eligibility status and cost awards for intervenors in OEB processes (EB-2013-0301).

LIEN also participated in and is currently participating in the OEB's hearings relating to the development of DSM plans. LIEN was engaged in consultations for Enbridge Gas Inc.'s development of its 2022-2027 DSM Plan and is currently intervening in this proceeding. LIEN also engaged in consultations with both Union Gas and Enbridge Gas Distribution in the development of their 2015-2020 DSM Plans.

Additionally, LIEN also participated in previous OEB hearings relating to development of CDM. Most recently, LIEN intervened in the OEB's proceeding to update the CDM Guidelines for Electricity Distributors to replace the Conservation and Demand Management Requirement Guidelines for Electricity Distributors (EB-2021-0106).

LIEN intends to participate in all aspects of this proceeding, including an oral hearing, if required.

COSTS

LIEN requests that the OEB find it eligible for costs under section 3.03 (a) of the OEB's Practice Direction on Cost Awards. LIEN "primarily represents the direct interests of consumers (e.g. ratepayers) in relation to services that are regulated by the Board". LIEN has been accepted as a party eligible for an award of costs in many other proceedings before the OEB.

As a not-for-profit organization, LIEN's participation in this proceeding is dependent on any cost awards it receives. LIEN intends to coordinate its efforts with other stakeholders to avoid duplication where possible. LIEN has retained Judy Simon & Associates Inc. to provide consulting advice to LIEN in this proceeding. Judy Simon is an expert on energy policy and conservation in Ontario and has been retained for expert advice in many proceedings by LIEN, and other clients, related to these issues.

We request that counsel (Mr. Matt Gardner and Ms. Madiha Vallani) and Ms. Judy Simon be included on the email distribution list for this proceeding.

Contact information for Ms. Simon:

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Yours truly,



Matt Gardner
Partner
*Certified as a Specialist in Environmental Law
by the Law Society of Ontario*

cc: LIEN Legal Subcommittee
Judy Simon

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