

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

BY EMAIL AND WEB POSTING

May 19, 2022

TO: All Licensed Electricity Distributors All Licensed Electricity Retailers All Other Interested Parties

RE: For Stakeholder Feedback: Consumer-Facing Materials and Retailer Forms related to Third Party Net Metering OEB File No. EB-2022-0152

On April 27, 2022, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a <u>Notice of a Proposal to</u> <u>Amend a Code</u> (Notice) advising of proposed amendments to the Distribution System Code (DSC), Electricity Retailer Code of Conduct (ERCC) and Retail Settlement Code (RSC). These proposed amendments are intended to facilitate legislative changes related to third party ownership of net metered renewable energy generation in Ontario (referred to as "third party net metering"). The legislative changes will take effect on July 1, 2022.

In the Notice, the OEB advised that certain consumer-facing materials would need to be adapted to suit the new retailing activity contemplated by the legislative changes. The OEB is issuing for stakeholder review and comment the adapted documents as Schedules to this letter (please see Appendix A for a description of these documents).

The documents in Schedules A to F are necessary to facilitate retailing in the context of third party net metering. While these documents are new, they are derived from and intended to be consistent, in both form and language, with consumer facing Retailer-related forms that are OEB-approved and currently in use. While Schedules B, F and E relate to residential consumers, it is intended that final versions of these forms will be issued for both residential and non-residential, consistent with the existing approach to such forms on the <u>OEB website</u>.

Each of these new documents relies on the use of the term Power Purchase Agreement (or PPA). This is intended, in large part, to help differentiate this group of net metering-related documents from existing consumer-facing Retailer-related forms. Use of the

term PPA is also expected to assist consumers in understanding that the agreement is for the purchase of power from the renewable energy generation system that is associated with the PPA and third party net metering arrangement.

Schedule G is a new disclosure document required under section 7.(1)(f) of O. Reg. 541/05 (Net Metering), made under the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* and reflected in the proposed amendments to section 5 of the DSC. This document is required in the case of any third party net metering agreement for the purpose of giving confirmation to the distributor that the consumer has been provided certain information where the consumer has entered into an agreement with the third party net metering generator.

Comments on Schedules A to G are requested by June 2, 2022 to ensure that final versions of these documents can be issued and posted on the OEB website by July 1, 2022. The OEB is issuing these documents now, following the review and comment period under the Notice, so that comments received through that process were available to OEB staff during the preparation of these documents.

Interested parties are asked to email feedback related to these forms to <u>netmeteringdocs@oeb.ca</u> by June 2, 2022.

Any questions relating to the forms or the information contained therein should be directed to <u>Industry.Relations@oeb.ca</u>.

Yours truly,

Brian Hewson Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance

Appendix A – Description of Schedules A to G

Schedule A: Disclosure Statement [Power Purchase Agreement]

• This document will be required to accompany the PPA and the Price Comparison. It is intended to explain basic information about the PPA and the rights and responsibilities of energy consumers. The final version of the Disclosure Statement will be issued in both print and online versions.

Schedule B: Price Comparison [Power Purchase Agreement – Residential]

 This document will be required to accompany the Disclosure Statement and the PPA. It explains how the prices in the PPA for electricity generated from a Renewable Generation System compare to the prices charged by an Electricity Utility. The final version of the Price Comparison will be issued in both print and online versions, for residential and non-residential consumers.

Schedule C: Instructions to Retailers on how to use the Price Comparison [Power Purchase Agreement]

• This document provides detailed instructions to Retailers on how they should prepare their final versions of the Price Comparison.

Schedule D: Tip Sheet [Power Purchase Agreement]

• This document gives the consumer additional information about PPAs.

Schedule E: Online Verification Form: Electricity PPA Entered into Over the Internet: Residential Consumers

• This document is a confirmation script used in respect of consumers that have entered into a PPA over the internet. Changes adopted in the final version of this document will also, where applicable, be made to the verification scripts for PPAs entered into over the internet, by mail and in person for residential and non-residential consumers.

Schedule F: Contract to Buy Electricity For A Home (Power Purchase Agreement Only)

• This is the agreement between a consumer and Retailer for the purchase of electricity generated by a consumer from a Renewable Generation System. A final version of this form will be issued for residential and non-residential consumers.

Schedule G: Net Metering Confirmation of Disclosure

 This document is a declaration that must be signed by the consumer and provided to the Electricity Utility as a confirmation that the consumer has received information from the third party generator about the Renewable Generation System, as prescribed by subsection 7.(1)(f) of O. Reg. 541/05 (Net Metering), made under the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998. Unlike the documents attached in Schedules A to F, this document does not apply to a consumer who has entered into a PPA with a Retailer (i.e., such consumer will be informed of their right to this information under Schedule F).